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House of Representatives

The House met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. DINGELL).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
September 20, 2021.

I hereby appoint the Honorable DEBBIE DINGELL to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

God, our creator, redeemer, and sustainer, we pray Your inspiration over the reconvening of this body. With much to be discussed, debated, and decided, allow Your Holy Spirit to brood over the tumultuous waters and bring order and purpose into this new day.

Redeem the efforts and intent of all who endeavor to steward the responsibilities You have given them. May each of us speak out of genuine commitment—not just to the nobleness of our position, but to the welfare of our common humanity. May we exercise courtesy and compassion in our dealings with one another, even those with whom we disagree.

Sustain us when the days grow long and patience grows short. When we are jealous of our time and sparing of respect, may You, in Your kindness to us, cause our love to increase and our mutual regard for each other to win out.

Strengthen our hearts that when called to account, we will be found blameless and holy in Your eyes. In all that we do this day, may we reflect

Your rich love, made all the richer by the privilege we have to demonstrate Your grace and mercy to those around us.

We pray in the name of the one in whom we live, move, and have our being.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 11(a) of House Resolution 188, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. JOYCE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

PROSTATE CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

(Ms. PLASKETT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. PLASKETT. Madam Speaker, September is Prostate Cancer Awareness Month. Prostate cancer has led male cancer incidence in 96 countries. It is the most common cause of death among men in 51 countries. The United States leads the world in reducing prostate cancer deaths.

One in eight U.S. men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer in their lifetimes. African-American men are over 75 percent more likely to develop prostate cancer compared to White men and more than twice as likely to die from the disease.

It is important for our men to understand that there are usually no early warning signs for prostate cancer. For many years the disease may be silent. That is why screening is such an important topic for all men and their families.

Age is the biggest risk factor for prostate cancer; rates of diagnosis steadily rise as men age into their fifties, sixties, and seventies.

I have family members and close male friends who have suffered from prostate cancer but underwent surgery and survived. Ask for early screening, and please be aware of this month as we go through prostate cancer awareness.

RECOGNIZING MAJOR GENERAL CHRISTOPHER DONAHUE

(Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Major General Christopher Donahue, the commander of the 82nd Airborne Division and the last American soldier to leave Afghanistan.

A native of Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, and as an officer in our Nation's special forces, General Donahue has devoted his life to the service of our Nation.

During the global war on terrorism, General Donahue has led soldiers in both Iraq and Afghanistan. He has always put his soldiers and their mission first. As the final soldier in Afghanistan, General Donahue showed his devotion to our Nation yet again.

This man is a leader, and our Nation is well-served with him commanding

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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our airborne division. I am grateful for General Donahue and for all of the brave soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines who have served in Afghanistan. Their service has made our Nation more secure. No political decision can take away what their service has meant.

AMERICA IS GREAT BECAUSE IT IS GOOD

(Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, President Biden and his fellow Democrats have said that they want to fundamentally change this country.

If this country is so bad, why do we lead the world in technological advances?

If this country is so bad, why have millions of immigrants risked life and limb to get into this country?

If this country is so bad, why are we the international example of religious tolerance?

If this country is so bad, why is the dollar the standard currency throughout the world?

If this country is so bad, why do we lead the world in aiding the impoverished countries around the globe?

If this country is so bad, how could American scientists have developed a vaccine in record time that has saved millions of lives around the globe?

If this country is so bad, how could someone like Dr. Ben Carson overcome the most insurmountable of odds to become one of the great neurosurgeons in the world?

If this country is so bad, how is it possible that Americans of every background can uniquely succeed here if they are determined to do so?

If this country is so bad, why do so many think it is so good?

If this country is so good, why are so many Democrats so hellbent on tearing it apart?

HURRICANE IDA BUILDING BACK BETTER

(Mr. CARTER of Louisiana asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I was in New Orleans when Hurricane Katrina made landfall. In the aftermath, the community came together with Federal and State partners to invest in a regional levee system to protect the New Orleans area from major flooding.

Sixteen years later, Hurricane Ida hit southeast Louisiana with roaring winds of around 150 miles per hour. Power lines snapped like popsicle sticks.

Luckily, the investments we made in flood protection largely worked. The levees held.

Sadly, other areas outside of the risk reduction zone were still heavily flood-

ed. Sadly, we find ourselves in a situation that is all too familiar. Our power grid was destroyed, leaving around 1 million-plus people without power in the sweltering heat in southeast Louisiana.

Hurricanes are predicted to become more frequent and more intense due to climate change.

The question is: Will our infrastructure be ready?

The needed investments to save lives were made after Katrina. As the Ida recovery continues, we must future-proof our power grid and levees to build back better.

GOD HAS SHED HIS GRACE ON AMERICA

(Mrs. GREENE of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. GREENE of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I have introduced Articles of Impeachment on President Joe Biden. The reason why I have done so is for his disgraceful actions having to do with Afghanistan: abandoning Americans and arming a terrorist nation, the Taliban, which is treason: giving aid and comfort to our enemies.

I have also introduced Articles of Impeachment for the national security crisis created at our southern border which today is actually being invaded.

But heading into this week, perhaps the most evil and disgusting thing that is going to happen in this 117th Congress is the bill that is going to be introduced that makes it a Federal law to allow abortion up until the day of birth.

This wall says: In God We Trust. And if that is the case, then this Congress will reject this evil bill and protect the innocent unborn. If this Nation becomes a nation where we have such a Federal law that can kill a baby up until the day of birth, then God will no longer provide protection in His grace over America.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

SUBSIDIZED CHILDCARE

(Ms. JACOBS of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACOBS of California. Madam Speaker, in San Diego County, which I am proud to represent, since the pandemic started, more than 500 childcare providers have closed their doors, and the families of more than 190,000 kids don't have access to the care they need.

Across the country, nearly 1.6 million moms of children under 17 are still missing from the labor force—an economic crisis decades in the making.

The Build Back Better Act is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to lower

the cost of childcare, expand availability, and boost the wages of the essential childcare workers that make our country go.

It isn't just the right thing for our families, it is the right thing for our economy. According to a Nobel Prize-winning economist, we save \$7 for every \$1 we invest in quality early childhood programs. So while some of my colleagues may argue that we can't afford to do these things, the truth is we can't afford not to.

Madam Speaker, we have to meet this moment, and we have to build back better.

REMEMBERING DAVIS COUNTY COACH DENNIS ANDERSON

(Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Madam Speaker, today I rise to remember the life of a beloved member of the Davis County community. Last Wednesday, Hall of Fame Davis County coach Dennis Anderson passed away after a battle struggling with stage IV terminal cancer.

Dennis Anderson began his career in Davis County athletics in 1968 when he started as a physical education teacher and varsity track coach. Under his 50 years of leadership, Mr. Anderson coached 22 State champions and was named Regional Coach of the Year in 1979, 1980, and 1992 before being hired as the school's athletic director.

After his retirement from Davis County Schools in 2000, Mr. Anderson spent 7 years as a zone chief at Iowa State track meets and was named Southeast Director of the Iowa Track Officials Association.

Thank you, Dennis, for your long-time service to the Davis County community and for making Iowa a better place through being a mentor and role model for Iowa men and women.

INDEPENDENT RESCUE OPERATIONS FROM AFGHANISTAN

(Mrs. KIM of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. KIM of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to thank veterans, non-governmental organizations, congressional offices, and ordinary citizens who have stepped up where the Biden administration has failed to save the lives of Americans and our Afghan allies who fought alongside U.S. troops and now are trapped behind enemy lines.

In many cases they have taken the lead in helping Americans and our allies flee the country through independent rescue operations.

Veterans like marines Andrew Darlington and Jeremy Horton who worked with my office tirelessly helped those Afghans whom they fought

alongside. They served our country honorably in uniform and did so again when they were called.

The administration's withdrawal has been a failure, but these individuals who have volunteered to be on the front lines of saving lives are heroes, and they have shown the world why we are an exceptional people. This is not about politics; this is about America keeping the promises we made. Our mission is not over.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 4:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 15 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1631

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CUELLAR) at 4 o'clock and 31 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS EXPIRING AUTHORITIES ACT OF 2021

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5293) to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend and modify certain authorities and requirements relating to the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5293

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Department of Veterans Affairs Expiring Authorities Act of 2021".

SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY FOR DENTAL INSURANCE PLAN FOR VETERANS AND SURVIVORS AND DEPENDENTS OF VETERANS.

Section 1712C of title 38, United States Code, is amended by striking subsection (j).

SEC. 3. EXTENSION OF TEMPORARY EXPANSION OF PAYMENTS AND ALLOWANCES FOR BENEFICIARY TRAVEL IN CONNECTION WITH VETERANS RECEIVING CARE FROM VET CENTERS.

Section 104(a) of the Honoring America's Veterans and Caring for Camp Lejeune Families Act of 2012 (Public Law 112-154; 126 Stat. 1169), as most recently amended by section 5109 of the Continuing Appropriations Act,

2021 and Other Extensions Act (Public Law 116-159; 134 Stat. 749), is further amended by striking "September 30, 2021" and inserting "September 30, 2022".

SEC. 4. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY FOR PILOT PROGRAM ON ACCEPTANCE BY THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS OF DONATED FACILITIES AND RELATED IMPROVEMENTS.

Section 2(i) of the Communities Helping Invest through Property and Improvements Needed for Veterans Act of 2016 (Public Law 114-294; 38 U.S.C. 8103 note) is amended by striking "the date that is 5 years after the date of the enactment of this Act" and inserting "December 16, 2026".

SEC. 5. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled "Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation" for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. BOST) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to insert extraneous material on H.R. 5293.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume to speak today in support of H.R. 5293, the Department of Veterans Affairs Expiring Authorities Act of 2021, offered by the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. MRVAN), the chairman of our Technology Modernization Subcommittee and my good friend.

This package ensures continued operations of several programs that are vital to addressing the needs of veterans we serve.

First, this bill removes the December 31, 2021, expiration date and makes permanent VA's dental insurance program. This benefit allows qualifying veterans, survivors, and dependents the opportunity to purchase discounted dental insurance coverage that includes preventive, diagnostic, endodontic, restorative, surgical, and emergency dental services.

Each individual covered by the program pays the entire premium for coverage in addition to the full cost of any copays. Enrollment is voluntary and does not affect eligible individuals' entitlement to existing VHA outpatient dental services and treatment.

Second, H.R. 5293 will extend VA's authority to provide travel reimbursement for certain veterans living in highly rural areas to receive care at vet centers. These centers serve as a

lifeline for veterans who may not feel comfortable seeking services at traditional VA medical facilities. They offer individual and group therapy, marriage and family counseling, and assist veterans in connecting to other VA benefits.

H.R. 5293 extends VA's authority to reimburse mileage, tolls, and other travel expenses veterans from highly rural areas may incur when traveling to vet centers.

Finally, H.R. 5293 will extend for 5 years VA's authority to operate the Communities Helping Invest through Property and Improvements Needed for Veterans Act of 2016 or the CHIP IN Act.

This program allows VA to accept donations from non-Federal entities of buildings and land that VA will use to address long-term infrastructure needs, including the delivery of healthcare services.

Examples of non-Federal entities that can make donations under the pilot include State and local authorities, a donor or donor group, limited liability corporations, or tax-exempt organizations.

The CHIP IN Act allows VA to use funds that have already been appropriated for a particular facility's construction project to assist a donor of real property and improvements with financing, designing, or constructing the facility to suit VA's needs.

Thus far, VA has accepted two donations: design and construction of a facility on the grounds of the VA Medical Center in Omaha, Nebraska; and construction of an inpatient facility in Tulsa, Oklahoma. This bill will extend VA's authority to accept similar donations in other locations.

Once again, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 5293, which will authorize the continued operation of these important programs.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5293, the Department of Veterans Affairs Expiring Authorities Act of 2021. This bill is sponsored by the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. MRVAN), and I thank him for introducing this bill to extend expiring authorities and programs.

The VA Expiring Authorities Act of 2021 would make VA dental insurance programs permanent so that veterans under VA's care are able to buy low-cost dental insurance coverage.

It would also allow veterans to continue to receive travel benefits when seeking support at vet centers.

It would also extend VA's Communities Helping Invest through Property and Improvements Needed, or CHIP IN for Vets pilot program by an additional 5 years.

The CHIP IN program allows VA to accept real property donations from nongovernment entities. The program was established by Congress in 2016. It

has already proven successful in delivering VA medical facilities to veterans in Nebraska and Oklahoma.

Extending this program has been a priority of the gentleman from Texas (Mr. JACKSON) and the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BACON). I appreciate their leadership on this.

I am also grateful to my fellow House and Senate committee leaders—Chairman TAKANO, Chairman TESTER, and Ranking Member MORAN—for their work on this bill.

I urge my colleagues to join me in support of H.R. 5293. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I am prepared to close. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers. I just urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to join me in passing H.R. 5293, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5293.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion are postponed.

VETERANS' COMPENSATION COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENT ACT OF 2021

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 189) to increase, effective as of December 1, 2021, the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 189

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Veterans’ Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2021”.

SEC. 2. INCREASE IN RATES OF DISABILITY COMPENSATION AND DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION.

(a) RATE ADJUSTMENT.—Effective on December 1, 2021, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall increase, in accordance with subsection (c), the dollar amounts in effect on November 30, 2021, for the payment of disability compensation and dependency and indemnity compensation under the provisions specified in subsection (b).

(b) AMOUNTS TO BE INCREASED.—The dollar amounts to be increased pursuant to subsection (a) are the following:

(1) WARTIME DISABILITY COMPENSATION.—Each of the dollar amounts under section 1114 of title 38, United States Code.

(2) ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION FOR DEPENDENTS.—Each of the dollar amounts under section 1115(1) of such title.

(3) CLOTHING ALLOWANCE.—The dollar amount under section 1162 of such title.

(4) DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION TO SURVIVING SPOUSE.—Each of the dollar amounts under subsections (a) through (d) of section 1311 of such title.

(5) DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION TO CHILDREN.—Each of the dollar amounts under sections 1313(a) and 1314 of such title.

(c) DETERMINATION OF INCREASE.—Each dollar amount described in subsection (b) shall be increased by the same percentage as the percentage by which benefit amounts payable under title II of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 401 et seq.) are increased effective December 1, 2021, as a result of a determination under section 215(i) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 415(i)).

(d) SPECIAL RULE.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs may adjust administratively, consistent with the increases made under subsection (a), the rates of disability compensation payable to persons under section 10 of Public Law 85-857 (72 Stat. 1263) who have not received compensation under chapter 11 of title 38, United States Code.

SEC. 3. PUBLICATION OF ADJUSTED RATES.

The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall publish in the Federal Register the amounts specified in section 2(b), as increased under that section, not later than the date on which the matters specified in section 215(i)(2)(D) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 415(i)(2)(D)) are required to be published by reason of a determination made under section 215(i) of such Act during fiscal year 2022.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. BOST) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to insert extraneous material on S. 189.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, S. 189, the Veterans’ Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2021, would require the Secretary of Veterans’ Affairs to increase the rates of disability compensation for service-connected veterans and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for survivors of veterans, effective December 1, 2021.

This bill would also increase these rates by the same percentage as the percentage by which Social Security benefits are increased, effective December 1, 2021, and require that the VA publish the increased rates in the Federal Register.

To me, the actual cost-of-living adjustment to veterans’ benefits, other-

wise known as COLA, is much more than a rate adjustment tied to inflation. In reality, it is a quality-of-life guarantee in the retirement years, especially for veterans suffering with service-connected disabilities and ailments.

It also comes with the assurance for veterans that their survivors will not see a steady decline in benefits if the economy changes and costs rise after they have passed. This guarantee is a great source of comfort for veterans as they age. I know this because they tell me this everywhere I go.

The yearly COLA increase demonstrates the appreciation from a grateful nation in recognition of the service and sacrifice of those who volunteer to wear the uniform of our country.

Participating in this gesture of gratitude is one of the most rewarding responsibilities of the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs. As chairman, I am honored to be leading this effort to say thank you.

I want to recognize the work of the Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs Subcommittee chair, ELAINE LURIA, and ranking member TROY NEHLS for sponsoring S. 189’s House companion, H.R. 3909, and for bringing this legislation to the floor with me today.

I am pleased that we are considering this bill early this year so veterans will not be concerned about its passage by the December 1 deadline. This is especially important to so many feeling the economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

I wholeheartedly support S. 189, and I urge all my colleagues to do so as well.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of S. 189, the Veterans’ Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2021. This bill will help ensure that benefits paid to veterans who are disabled as a result of their military service do not lose value because of inflation.

S. 189 authorizes a cost-of-living increase for veterans and their families next year as long as Social Security recipients receive an increase.

Many disabled veterans and their families rely on these compensation benefits to pay their bills, such as mortgage payments and groceries. In some cases, these benefits may even be the veteran’s only income. Moreover, VA benefits are providing much-needed financial support to many veterans facing uncertainty due to this pandemic.

We must pass this bill and ensure that compensation benefits for our disabled veterans keep pace with rising costs.

I would like to thank Senator THUNE for introducing this important legislation. I urge my colleagues to support S. 189.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from Virginia (Mrs. LURIA), my good friend and the chair of the Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs Subcommittee.

Mrs. LURIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2021. Simply put, this is a well-deserved and necessary pay raise for our disabled veterans.

I am proud to represent a district with eight major military installations, including Naval Station Norfolk, the largest naval station in the world.

□ 1645

Ours is a community where one in five people is either active duty servicemembers, veterans, or a military family member.

Our veterans, no matter where they were deployed or in what capacity they served, swore an oath to protect and defend the Constitution. They risked their lives thousands of miles away to keep America safe. And as a 20-year Navy veteran myself, I am proud to support this bill to ensure that every veteran can continue to use their benefits they earned in service to our country.

The Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2021, the Senate companion to my House bill, H.R. 3909, enhances benefits for wartime disability compensation, compensation for dependents, clothing allowance, dependency and indemnity compensation for surviving spouses, and compensation to children. It increases the same way that Social Security benefits increase to meet the rising cost of living.

We have seen costs for disability care, clothing, and childcare increase over the years, and it is vital that we continue to provide benefits that actually meet the demands our veterans face every day.

Providing quality benefits to our veterans and their dependents can change lives, and Congress must honor the commitment to those American heroes who served.

Again, I urge swift passage of S. 189 so that we can responsibly assist our Nation's veterans once again.

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I encourage all my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I ask all my colleagues to join me in passing S. 189, The Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2021, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 189.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion are postponed.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL JOHN W. MOSLEY VA CLINIC

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4172) to name the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Aurora, Colorado, as the "Lieutenant Colonel John W. Mosley VA Clinic."

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4172

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. NAME OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMUNITY-BASED OUTPATIENT CLINIC, AURORA, COLORADO.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) John Mosley was born on June 21, 1921, in Denver, Colorado.

(2) In 1945, John Mosley married Edna Mosley.

(3) During World War II, he joined the famed Tuskegee Airmen and trained as a bomber pilot, serving as one of the first African Americans in that role. He earned the flight qualification of Command Pilot during his service in the United States Air Force. The brave service of the Tuskegee Airmen helped pave the way for integration of the armed services. Edna Mosley worked in the defense industry during the war.

(4) Upon their return to Colorado, Edna Mosley joined John as a tireless community activist and organizer. Among her many achievements, Edna was elected to three terms as Aurora's first African-American City Council Woman. While on the Council, Mrs. Mosley also served on the Board of Directors of the Fitzsimons Redevelopment Authority, the entity which provided the vision for the development of the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center.

(5) After a brief break from military service, John Mosley served during the Korean and Vietnam wars. He was an operations officer in Thailand during the Vietnam War.

(6) John Mosley retired in 1970 as a lieutenant colonel.

(7) In 2007, Lieutenant Colonel Mosley and the original Tuskegee Airmen received the Congressional Gold Medal from President George W. Bush.

(8) John and Edna Mosley continued to serve their community long after their retirements, advocating for racial equality, women's rights, veterans' affairs, housing, and education.

(b) DESIGNATION.—The Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic to be located in Aurora, Colorado, shall after the date of the enactment of this Act be known and designated as the "Lieutenant Colonel John W. Mosley Clinic".

(c) REFERENCES.—Any reference to such clinic in any law, regulation, map, document, record, or other paper of the United States shall be considered to be a reference to the Lieutenant Colonel John W. Mosley Clinic.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) and the gen-

tleman from Illinois (Mr. BOST) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to insert extraneous material on H.R. 4172.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to remember the life of John W. Mosley, a Denver native who began his legendary service to our Nation in the United States Army Air Corps as a World War II Tuskegee Airman, one of our Nation's first Black military aviators.

This bill, H.R. 4172, will name the Department of Veterans Affairs new community-based outpatient clinic in Aurora, Colorado, as the Lieutenant Colonel John W. Mosley VA Clinic. I thank my colleague, Representative JASON CROW, a former Army Ranger, for championing this effort.

To say that Lieutenant Colonel Mosley led a remarkable life would be an understatement. Growing up in a segregated neighborhood in Denver, he became valedictorian of his high school class. In 1939, Lieutenant Colonel Mosley became a National Merit Scholar and was one of the first Black students to attend Colorado State College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts, which is now Colorado State University. Mosley was the school's first Black varsity football player and served as vice president of his college class as a junior and as a senior.

At the start of the Second World War, Mosley dreamed of serving his country as a pilot. After being denied the opportunity to join the ROTC program in college, Lieutenant Colonel Mosley paid for his own flight physical and started taking flying lessons.

And even after the Army Air Corps established the Tuskegee Airmen program in June 1941, Mosley was not initially drafted to join them.

Mosley was instead sent to an artillery unit at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. Mosley protested, writing letters to Members of Congress and the President until he was finally accepted into the Tuskegee unit.

Together, the Tuskegee Airmen flew more than 15,000 missions over North Africa and Europe during World War II. Lieutenant Colonel Mosley later served as a pilot in the Berlin Airlift, delivering loads of supplies to the Soviet-blockaded sectors of the city.

Upon Lieutenant Colonel Mosley's death in 2015 at the age of 93, his son, Eric, told the Denver Post that Lieutenant Colonel Mosley always said that "he had to fight in order to fight. . . . He had to struggle to be able to fight for his country."

Having paved the way as a Tuskegee Airman, Lieutenant Colonel Mosley later worked with the Truman administration to draft policies that would eventually fully integrate the United States Armed Forces.

Mosley went on to serve our Nation in the United States Air Force during the Korean war and Vietnam war, retiring in 1970.

Mosley then joined the Federal civil service, becoming a special assistant to the undersecretary in the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare before finally returning home to Colorado where he and his wife, Edna, continued their civil rights advocacy.

I should also mention that Edna Mosley was a trailblazer in her own right, becoming Aurora, Colorado's, first African American city councilwoman in 1992.

H.R. 4172 has letters of support from our Colorado delegation colleagues, the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the Disabled American Veterans.

Mr. Speaker, I include these letters in the RECORD.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
Washington, DC.

Hon. JON TESTER,
Chairman, Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Washington, DC.

Hon. MARK TAKANO,
Chairman, House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Washington, DC.

Hon. JERRY MORAN,
Ranking Member, Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Washington, DC.

Hon. MIKE BOST,
Ranking Member, House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN TESTER, CHAIRMAN TAKANO, RANKING MEMBER MORAN, RANKING MEMBER BOST: We write to request your support to name the new Aurora VA community-based outpatient clinic (CBOC) after Lieutenant Colonel John Mosley. He was a Denver native who lived in Aurora, was a Tuskegee Airman, civil rights activist, and the first Black football player at Colorado State University.

Lieutenant Colonel John Mosley was born the son of a slave. He was the valedictorian of his graduating class at Manual High School and attended a segregated Colorado A&M (now Colorado State University) on an academic scholarship, becoming his class Vice President and the first African American to play on its football team.

During World War II, he joined the famed Tuskegee Airmen and trained as a bomber pilot, serving as one of the first African Americans in that role. He earned the flight qualification of Command Pilot during his service in the United States Air Force. He piloted bombing missions over Europe and North Africa. The brave service of the Tuskegee Airmen helped pave the way for integration of the armed services.

Lieutenant Colonel John Mosley went on to fight in the Korean and Vietnam Wars. He became special assistant to the undersecretary in the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare in Washington, D.C. before returning to Colorado. After his retirement, Lieutenant Colonel John Mosley and his wife Edna continued to serve Colorado—Edna as Aurora City Council Woman—advocating for racial equality, women's rights, veterans' affairs, housing, and education.

We would be grateful for your support in this effort and hope the Senate and House

Committees on Veterans Affairs will give it their consideration.

Sincerely,

Jason Crow, Ken Buck, Joe Neguse, Doug Lamborn, Ed Perlmutter, Diana DeGette, Lauren Boebert, Members of Congress. John Hickenlooper, Michael F. Bennet, U.S. Senators.

—
CHIP KOSSOW,
Falcon, CO, August 10, 2021.

Chairman MARK TAKANO,
House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Washington, DC.

Hon. MIKE BOST,
House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN TAKANO AND RANKING MEMBER BOST: Please accept this letter as a demonstration of the total support of the American Legion Department of Colorado, in recognition of naming the new Veterans Administration Clinic in Aurora, Colorado as "John W. Mosley Veterans Clinic".

The Denver native was the first-ever black player on what is now the Colorado State University football team, and he was one of the first black men trained as a bomber pilot during the Second World War, serving with the famed Tuskegee Airmen before trading in his military service for a life of community leadership in Aurora.

The Tuskegee Airmen flew 15,000 missions over North Africa and Europe during the Second World War. John also would serve as a pilot in the Berlin Airlift after the war, delivering loads of supplies to the Soviet-blockaded sectors of the city.

The American Legion Department of Colorado would like to honor his amazing legacy of service to God, Country, his fellow veterans, and his community of Aurora, CO with our full support and we wholeheartedly support and encourage the committee to sponsor and support legislation naming the new Aurora Veterans Clinic after this distinguished WWII Veteran.

On behalf of the 21,000 members of The American Legion in Colorado I am proud to fully endorse this effort.

Sincerely,

—
CHIP KOSSOW,
Department Commander.

—
DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS,
DEPARTMENT OF COLORADO,
Lakewood, Colorado.

Hon. MARK TAKANO,
Chairman, House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Washington, DC.

Hon. MIKE BOST,
House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN TAKANO AND RANKING MEMBER BOST: Please accept this letter as demonstrating the total support of the Department of Colorado Disabled American Veterans, in recognition of the ongoing initiative to name the new Aurora VA Community-Based Outpatient Clinic to the Lieutenant Colonel John W. Mosley Community Based Outpatient Clinic, in memory of United States Air Force Lieutenant Colonel "retired" John W. Mosley.

Lieutenant Colonel Mosley served in the U.S. Army Air Corps and then subsequently the U.S. Air Force from WWII, then Korea, and Vietnam. He was also a Tuskegee Airman in WWII. After WWII, he was called upon to work with the Truman Administration to draft the policies that would fully integrate the U.S. armed forces. In addition, Colonel Mosley also served in a variety of federal positions.

Colonel Mosley was also a strong civil rights activist, fighting for the right to attend CSU, becoming the first black Amer-

ican to play football and wrestled at CSU, and elected as his class Vice President in both his junior and senior college years.

Lieutenant Colonel John W. Mosley embodied the Air Force value of loyalty, duty, respect, and selfless service to his fellow veterans and his country.

The Department of Colorado Disabled American Veterans would like to honor his outstanding legacy with our full support, endorsement, and we most strongly encourage this committee to support legislation renaming the Aurora VA Community-Based Outpatient Clinic after Lieutenant Colonel John W. Mosley.

Sincerely,

—
JOHN CARMONA,
Commander, Department of Colorado, Disabled American Veterans.

—
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS,
DEPARTMENT OF COLORADO,
Lakewood, CO.

Hon. MARK TAKANO,
Chairman, House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Washington, DC.

Hon. MIKE BOST,
House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN TAKANO AND RANKING MEMBER BOST: Please accept this letter as a demonstration of total support of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Colorado, in recognition of changing the name of the Veterans Administration Clinic in Aurora, Colorado currently called the Aurora Gateway CBOC Replacement (VHA19-554-2016-29466) to "Lieutenant Colonel John W. Mosley VA Clinic".

Renaming the Aurora Gateway Veterans Affairs Medical Clinic Replacement facility in respect to John W. Mosley is the ideal honor to bestow upon a legendary U.S. Air Force Tuskegee Airman who piloted bombing missions over Europe, North Africa, Korea, and Vietnam. Lt. Col. Mosley's life of service extended from his student days at Colorado State University in the late 1930s where he broke color barriers when he was elected class vice president in both of his junior and senior years to after World War II where he worked with the Truman administration to draft the policies that would fully integrate the United States Armed Forces and further in the Denver metro area late into his life.

Veterans of Foreign Wars, Colorado proudly supports legislation to rename the new Veterans Affairs replacement medical clinic in Aurora, CO as the John W. Mosley Aurora Gateway CBOC. Lt. Col. Mosley distinguished himself throughout his life with service to our country and community service efforts that improved the lives of all those who call Denver and Aurora home.

Lt. Col. Mosley was the embodiment of the U.S. Air Force Tuskegee Airmen values, loyalty, duty, respect, and selfless service to his fellow veterans and his country. The Veterans of Foreign Wars Colorado would like to honor his amazing legacy with our full support and encourage the committee to support legislation renaming the Aurora Gateway CBOC Replacement (VHA19-554-2016-29466) after this distinguished member of our State.

—
BARBARA GREEN,
State Commander, Department of Colorado, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S.

Mr. TAKANO. Once again, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 4172 to name the new VA community-based clinic in Aurora, Colorado, after Lieutenant Colonel John W. Mosley, and by doing so, we will help ensure that his legacy

lives on and continues to inspire future generations to break barriers and fight for justice and equality.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4172, a bill to name the VA community-based outpatient clinic, CBOC, in Aurora, Colorado, after Lieutenant Colonel John W. Mosley.

Lieutenant Colonel Mosley was one of the famed Tuskegee Airmen. Mosley served honorably in World War II, as well as the Korean war and the Vietnam war.

Mosley went on to a career in government, serving in D.C. before returning to Colorado as a long-time community leader and advocate.

Congressman JASON CROW from Colorado has introduced this bill to name the VA CBOC in Aurora, Colorado, after Lieutenant Colonel Mosley, and I am in full support and hope that my colleagues will join me.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. CROW), the author of this legislation and also a subcommittee chairman of the Small Business Committee and a member of the House Armed Services Committee.

Mr. CROW. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding and for his leadership and support, as well as the members of the committee and the committee staff for making sure that this bill received full and quick consideration.

I do rise today in support of H.R. 4172 to name the new Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Aurora, Colorado, for Lieutenant Colonel John W. Mosley.

Lieutenant Colonel Mosley embodies the finest our country has to offer. Mosley was an inspirational leader in the Aurora community and in the Air Force.

Mosley was born in Denver, Colorado, in 1921 and broke barriers at a time where Black men and women were prevented from achieving the full rights of their citizenship and full participation in the military.

Colonel Mosley attended what is now Colorado State University and became the first ever Black player on the football team.

After college, Colonel Mosley wanted to become a pilot, so he paid to get his own pilot's license. When the Air Force didn't assign him to be a pilot, he lobbied his own command in D.C. to assign him to a pilot role. He was eventually assigned to the segregated Tuskegee Airmen unit.

During World War II, he trained as a bomber pilot, serving as one of the first African Americans in that role. He earned the flight qualification of Command Pilot during his service in the U.S. Air Force. The brave service of the Tuskegee Airmen and Colonel Mosley

helped pave the way for integration of the armed services.

Upon his return, he married Edna, and together John and Edna Mosley became tireless community activists and organizers. Among her many achievements, Edna was elected to three terms as Aurora's first African American city councilwoman.

After a brief break from military service, Colonel Mosley served during the Korean and the Vietnam wars. Three conflicts. Mosley was an operations officer in Thailand during the Vietnam war.

So naming the new Aurora clinic after Colonel Mosley honors his legacy and will inspire future generations to break barriers. I can't think of a better name for my fellow veterans to be walking in to this new clinic in Aurora, Colorado, than to see the name of Colonel John Mosley as they walk in and to remember his service, his sacrifice, his leadership, and the best of what we can be as a country.

I thank the House Veterans' Affairs Committee for their work to advance this bill, and I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this effort to honor Lieutenant Colonel John Mosley.

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I am prepared to close, but before I do I will just let the gentleman from Colorado know that I am honored to represent the University of California Riverside, which is the repository of the Tuskegee Airmen Collection, which is formerly known as the Tuskegee Airmen Archives.

We are proud to have the papers of many of the 992 pilots who graduated from the Tuskegee Air Field courses who advanced race relations in our country. I am certainly hopeful that we will have the availability of the papers from Colonel Mosley that might, if it is not already in our archives, to be added.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I ask all my colleagues to join me in passing H.R. 4172 to name the VA clinic in Aurora, Colorado, as the Lieutenant Colonel John W. Mosley VA clinic, and I yield back the balance of my time.

□ 1700

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4172.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

NAVY CORPSMAN STEVE ANDREWS DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS HEALTH CARE CLINIC

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1281) to name the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Gaylord, Michigan, as the "Navy Corpsman Steve Andrews Department of Veterans Affairs Health Care Clinic".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1281

SECTION 1. NAME OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMUNITY-BASED OUTPATIENT CLINIC, GAYLORD, MICHIGAN.

The Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic located at 2782 S. Otsego Avenue, Gaylord, Michigan, shall after the date of the enactment of this Act be known and designated as the "Navy Corpsman Steve Andrews Department of Veterans Affairs Health Care Clinic". Any reference to such clinic in any law, regulation, map, document, record, or other paper of the United States shall be considered to be a reference to the Navy Corpsman Steve Andrews Department of Veterans Affairs Health Care Clinic.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. BOST) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to insert extraneous material on H.R. 1281.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to remember the life of Navy Corpsman Steve Andrews, who passed away on January 28, 2017. I thank my colleague, General Bergman from Michigan, for bringing this bill before us so we all can pay tribute to a lifelong public servant.

Mr. Speaker, Steve Andrews grew up in Gaylord, Michigan, and graduated from Gaylord High School. He joined the Navy during the Vietnam war in 1967 and served as a hospital corpsman at the U.S. Naval Hospital in Guam. He also served as a medic for the 1st Marine Division and Marine 1st Reconnaissance Company in Vietnam.

Mr. Speaker, Corpsman Andrews is credited with saving the lives of numerous marines during his time in Vietnam. In recognition of his exceptional service in combat, he was awarded a Purple Heart and a Navy Commendation Medal.

However, Steve Andrews's service to his community and country did not end with military service. He was elected to the 106th District in the Michigan

House of Representatives and held office from 1979 to 1982. Steve Andrews remained an active public servant for Petoskey and Emmet County, working as a friend of the court and a board member of the Petoskey Regional Chamber of Commerce and North Central College. He also coached multiple sports teams and was a constant presence in the local community.

Steve was also a steward of the arts, helping found Petoskey Art in the Park. He and his wife, Karen, owned and operated Sturgeon River Pottery for 35 years.

Corpsman Andrews' dedication to serving his community will inspire Gaylord VA Health Care Clinic staff to serve veterans, just as Steve did.

We hope that naming the Gaylord, Michigan, VA Outpatient Clinic after Corpsman Steve Andrews will honor the outstanding care that he provided his fellow soldiers.

H.R. 1281 has letters of support from The American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Affairs, the Disabled American Veterans, and the American Veterans organization.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD those letters and a resolution in support.

DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN, VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES,

Lansing, Michigan, 14 June 2021.

TO THE HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE AND SENATE VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMITTEES: The Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Michigan enthusiastically supports the naming of the Gaylord Veteran Affairs Community Based Outpatient Clinic to be "Navy Corpsman Steve Andrews Department of Veterans Affairs Health Care Clinic".

Steve Andrews was a Navy Corpsman, whose heroic actions in Vietnam are credited for saving countless Marine Corps lives during combat. A Navy Commendation and Purple Heart recipient, Andrews is originally from Gaylord and is a graduate of Gaylord High School. Mr. Andrews was a citizen of Gaylord, where he also served as a friend of the court, coached multiple sports in the region, served as a board member for the chamber of commerce, and was a State Representative for the 106th District from 1979-1982.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars, the city of Gaylord, and this great Nation are grateful for the selfless acts of this individual. We hope that by naming this facility after a Purple Heart recipient of the Vietnam War, we might begin to show all Vietnam Veterans how much this country appreciates their sacrifices for this Nation. No matter how long overdue.

We thank Congressman Bergman and all Members of Congress who support this meaningful legislation.

Respectfully,

KEVIN CONKLIN,
State Commander, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of Michigan.

DEREK BLUMKE,
State Adjutant/Quartermaster, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of Michigan.

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS,
DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN

June 27, 2021.

TO THE HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE AND SENATE VETERAN'S AFFAIRS COMMITTEES: The Disabled American Veterans, Department of Michigan fully supports Congressman Bergman's legislative initiative to name the Gaylord Veterans Affairs Based Outpatient Clinic the "Navy Corpsman Steve Andrews Department of Veteran's Affairs Health Care Clinic."

Navy Corpsman Andrews entered the Navy in 1967, and served in the 1st Marine Division/1st Force Reconnaissance Company in Vietnam. During his time in service to our nation, he was credited with saving countless American lives. In recognition for his selfless sacrifices, he was awarded the Navy Commendation Medal and Purple Heart. Mr. Andrews continued his service to our state and nation after his military service by holding the position of State Representative for the 106th District from 1979-1982.

The DAV Department of Michigan believes naming the Gaylord Veterans Affairs Based Outpatient Clinic in honor of Mr. Andrews will ensure that the dedication to duty displayed by him and by so many of our Vietnam Era Veterans will be remembered by all. Mr. Andrew's selfless sacrifice and dedication to our nation is not only an inspiration to all of us who have served, but also to generations of future veterans that will answer our nations call.

Sincerely,

ALBERT HUGHES,
State Commander.
PAUL KAISER,
State Adjutant.

AMVETS,
Lanham, MD.

Hon. JACK BERGMAN,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC, July 5, 2021.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE BERGMAN: AMVETS supports the passage of H.R. 1281 to name the Gaylord Veteran Affairs Community Based Outpatient Clinic to be "Navy Corpsman Steve Andrews Department of Veterans Affairs Health Care Clinic".

Steve Andrews was a member of the Gaylord community and a state legislator representing the 106th district. He served his nation honorably at the U.S. Navy Hospital in Guam and as a medic in the 1st Marine Division and Marine 1st Force Reconnaissance Company in Vietnam.

AMVETS thanks Congressman Bergman for introducing this legislation and we support its full enactment.

Sincerely,

CAROL HEBERT,
AMVETS Department of Michigan.

THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN

Resolution: #21-17
Submitted by: 19th District
Subject: Naming the Gaylord V.A. CBOC

RESOLUTION

Whereas, Steve Andrews grew up in Gaylord, Michigan; and

Whereas, Steve Andrews served in the United States Navy as a Hospital Corpsman at the U.S. Naval Hospital at Guam; and

Whereas, Steve Andrews served as a medic/corpsman with the 1st Marine Division, Marine 1st Force Reconnaissance Company in Vietnam; and

Whereas, Steve Andrews was awarded the Navy Commendation Medal and Purple Heart for his actions in combat in Vietnam and for saving the lives of countless Marines; and

Whereas, Steve Andrews, following his military service, was eventually elected to

serve in the Michigan House of Representatives, representing Northern Michigan's 106th District from 1979 to 1982; and

Whereas, Steve Andrews was a Gaylord High School graduate who was actively involved in public service in Petoskey and Emmet County; and

Whereas, Steve Andrews was a member of Post 225, The American Legion, Department of Michigan; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, By The American Legion, Department of Michigan, in annual Department Convention assembled in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, July 9-11, 2021, That The American Legion, Department of Michigan, support the efforts of Michigan Congressional Representative Jack Bergman to name the V.A. Community-Based Outpatient Clinic, Gaylord, Michigan, the "Navy Corpsman Steve Andrews Department of Veterans Affairs Health Care Clinic".

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I wholeheartedly support this bill, and I urge my colleagues to do the same.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1281, a bill to name the VA community-based outpatient clinic, or CBOC, in Gaylord, Michigan, the Navy Corpsman Steve Andrews VA Health Care Clinic.

This bill is cosponsored by my friend, fellow marine, and ranking member of the Subcommittee on Health, General JACK BERGMAN of Michigan. I thank him for his leadership.

Navy Corpsman Steve Andrews served during the Vietnam war and received both the Navy Commendation Medal and the Purple Heart. He was also an active member of the Gaylord community before and after his time in uniform. It is fitting that the VA CBOC there will carry his name.

Mr. Speaker, I wholeheartedly support this legislation. I urge all of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to do the same, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. BERGMAN).

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1281 to name the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Gaylord, Michigan, as the Navy Corpsman Steve Andrews Department of Veterans Affairs Health Care Clinic.

It is an honor for me to lead this legislation to designate a VA care facility in the hometown of a man who so embodied love and care for others, whether it was for a neighbor down the street, a constituent in his district, or his brothers and sisters in arms on the battlefield.

Steve Andrews led a life of service in every sense of the word, starting with the defense of our freedoms overseas. He entered the Navy in 1967 as a hospital corpsman, going on to serve in the Vietnam war—not only at the U.S. Navy Hospital in Guam, but as a medic

in the 1st Marine Division attached to a force reconnaissance company in Vietnam. He is credited with saving the lives of countless marines during combat.

Steve earned the Navy Commendation Medal and Purple Heart for his service. I can personally attest that countless marines and new generations of Americans owe their lives to Navy corpsmen. Their service must never be forgotten, which is one of the reasons we are working to memorialize Steve Andrews with this legislation.

Steve led a dedicated, full life of public service. From 1979 to 1982, he represented Michigan's 106th District as a State representative fighting for Michiganders' best interests in Lansing. Giving back to the community in which he grew up, Steve coached local youth sports, helped found Petoskey Art in the Park, and sat on the boards of the Petoskey Regional Chamber of Commerce and North Central College.

I personally met Steve in a rocking chair in January of 2016. He was terminal with cancer at that point. He did not hesitate to reach out to someone he had never met before in his life and share his thoughts on what it meant to be a public servant. I am deeply indebted to his perspective.

His legacy is beyond deserving of the designation that we are seeking today. I thank his loving family for all their support; his friends, who initiated this legislation; the Michigan veterans service organizations backing us up; and the entirety of my Michigan delegation colleagues for coming together in a bipartisan manner to cosponsor this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1281.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in passing H.R. 1281, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1281.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ROBERT S. POYDASHEFF VA CLINIC

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3475) to name the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Columbus, Georgia, as the "Robert S. Poydasheff VA Clinic".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3475

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Former Columbus, Georgia, Mayor Robert S. Poydasheff died on September 24, 2020.

(2) He earned a B.A. in Political Science from the Citadel in 1954, a J.D. from Tulane University Law School in 1957, an M.A. in International Relations from Boston University's Graduate Program in Berlin, Germany, in 1967, and attended the Hague Academy of International Law in the Netherlands in preparation for a military and subsequent civilian career that focused on serving others.

(3) In 1955, he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Infantry Branch of the United States Army, and he was reassigned to the Judge Advocate General's Corps.

(4) He was a 1976 graduate of the United States Army War College and served a total of 24 years, retiring as a Colonel in 1979.

(5) He was decorated with the Legion of Merit with two Oak Leaf Clusters, the Bronze Star Medal, and Vietnam Ribbon with Four Battle Stars, and during his military career and because of his expert legal acumen he was assigned to work on the biggest cases of the time in which he served, but during this he never lost sight of what he considered his primary role, which was to take care of soldiers.

(6) Robert S. Poydasheff was appointed as legal counsel to the Secretary of the Army and served the needs of all soldiers by helping to shape Army policy.

(7) In 2012, the Army War College Foundation named Colonel Poydasheff an Outstanding Alumnus in recognition of his wide-ranging service to his community after his retirement from active duty.

(8) Colonel Poydasheff served on the Columbus, Georgia City Council from 1994 to 2002, helping all citizens of the community he had come to love while concurrently serving Fort Benning and his beloved soldiers.

(9) He was elected Mayor of Columbus, Georgia, in 2002, served a four-year term and maintained a focus on community-based programs as well as strengthening the relationship between the city and Fort Benning.

(10) During that time he made great contributions to the joint military and civilian communities of Columbus, Georgia, and Fort Benning, appointing first a fellow soldier and later the first African American to the City Manager position, while knowing that doing so would be at his own political peril.

(11) After his service as Mayor of Columbus, Georgia, Robert S. Poydasheff found continued success as a practicing lawyer helping countless citizens and soldiers living in the city he once led as well as advocating for many soldiers in the area.

(12) His continued interest in the betterment of the city as well as his contributions to the Veterans Action Committee has a continued impact to this day.

(13) He served as past president of the Chattahoochee Council Boy Scouts of America, past president of the Chattahoochee Valley Association of the United States Army, past president of the Columbus Symphony Orchestra, member of the Board of Directors of the Springer Opera Arts Association, past president of the Ann Elizabeth Shepherd Home, and member of the Kiwanis Club and Columbus Bar Association.

SEC. 2. NAME OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMUNITY-BASED OUTPATIENT CLINIC, COLUMBUS, GEORGIA.

The Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Columbus, Georgia, shall after the date of the enact-

ment of this Act be known and designated as the "Robert S. Poydasheff VA Clinic". Any reference to such clinic in any law, regulation, map, document, record, or other paper of the United States shall be considered to be a reference to the Robert S. Poydasheff VA Clinic.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. BOST) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to insert extraneous material on H.R. 3475.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the life of Colonel Robert S. Poydasheff, who passed away on September 24, 2020.

I thank my colleague, Representative SANFORD BISHOP from Georgia, for introducing this legislation so that we can pay tribute to a distinguished servicemember who advocated for veterans throughout his life.

Robert Poydasheff received his bachelor of arts in political science from The Citadel in 1954. In 1955, he was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the United States Army as an infantry officer. After completing his law education at Tulane University, Mr. Poydasheff continued his military career in the Judge Advocate General's Corps.

Mr. Poydasheff was appointed as legal counsel for the Secretary of the Army, helping to shape better policy for all Army soldiers. He graduated from the United States Army War College in 1976 and retired in 1979, achieving the rank of colonel.

During Colonel Poydasheff's 24 years of military service, he was awarded the Legion of Merit with two oak leaf clusters, the Bronze Star Medal, and a Vietnam Ribbon with four battle stars. He truly embodied the highest qualities of military distinction.

After retiring from the Army, Colonel Poydasheff was called to serve his community in Georgia. He served on the Columbus, Georgia, City Council from 1994 to 2002, concurrently serving the soldiers at Fort Benning. He went on to be elected as the mayor of Columbus in 2002. In 2012, Colonel Poydasheff was honored by the Army War College Foundation as an outstanding alumnus.

H.R. 3475 has letters of support from The American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the Disabled American Veterans.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD those letters of support.

THE AMERICAN LEGION,
DEPARTMENT OF GEORGIA,
Stockbridge, GA, April 7, 2021.

Hon. MARK TAKANO,
Chairman,
Hon. MIKE BOST,
Ranking Member,
House Committee on Veterans Affairs,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN AND MR. RANKING MEMBER: This letter is to serve as written support from the American Legion, Department of Georgia for the legislation to be introduced which will name the new Veterans Administration Clinic in Columbus, Georgia as the "Robert S. Poydasheff Veterans Clinic."

It is befitting to bestow this honor on Robert Poydasheff, who passed away September 2020, and who served as City Council (1994–2002) and subsequently as Mayor of Columbus (2003–2007). Throughout his mayorship, he was a strong advocate for veterans in the Columbus community. He, too, was a veteran who served in the US Army 24 years before retiring as a Colonel. His military service began as an Infantry Officer with a combat tour in Vietnam. He later transferred to the Judge Advocate General Corps where he worked in various positions for the Secretary of the Army. Mayor Poydasheff embodied the Army values of loyalty, duty, respect, and selfless service to fellow veterans and to this country.

It is with honor that the American Legion, Department of Georgia, supports this effort to name the Columbus Veterans Clinic after Robert S. Poydasheff, a very distinguished member of the community.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or the Adjutant, Department of Georgia, Zeste C. Debro.

For God and Country . . .

Sincerely,

EDDIE ASBERRY, Jr.,
Commander, Department of Georgia.

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS,
DEPARTMENT OF GEORGIA,
Macon, GA, March 3, 2021.

MARK TAKANO,
Chairman, House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Washington, DC.

Hon. MIKE BOST,
House Committee on Veterans' Affairs,
Washington DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN TAKANO AND RANKING MEMBER BOST: Please accept this letter as a demonstration of the total support of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Georgia, in recognition of changing the name of the Veterans Administration Clinic in Columbus, Georgia to "The Robert S. Poydasheff Veterans Clinic."

Robert Poydasheff served in the United States Army for twenty-four years. He began his military service as an Infantry Officer, where he served one combat tour in Vietnam, before transferring to the Judge Advocate General Corps where he worked in a number of positions for the Secretary of the Army. After retiring from the Army at the rank of Colonel he served as a City Counselor from 1994 to 2002 and Mayor of Columbus Georgia from 2003 to 2007 all the while strongly advocating on behalf of Veterans in the Columbus community until his passing last September.

Colonel Poydasheff was the embodiment of Army values of loyalty, duty, respect and selfless service to his fellow Veterans and his Country. The Veterans of Foreign Wars of Georgia would like to honor his amazing legacy with our full support and encourage the committee to support legislation renaming

the Columbus Veterans Clinic after this distinguished member of our State.

Sincerely,

JOEL L. WILLIS, Jr.,
State Commander, VFW Department
of Georgia.

MARCH 30, 2021.

MARK TAKANO,
Chairman, House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Washington, DC.

Hon. MIKE BOST,
House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN TAKANO AND RANKING MEMBER BOST: Please accept this letter as demonstrating the total support of the Georgia Department of the Disabled American Veterans, in recognition of the ongoing initiative to rename the new Veterans' Administration Clinic in Columbus, Georgia to the Robert S. Poydasheff Veterans' Clinic, in memory of United States Army colonel (retired) and mayor of Columbus, Robert S. Poydasheff.

Mayor Poydasheff's model of selflessness in the areas of military service and civic responsibility should be a shining example for all Americans to follow.

Robert Poydasheff, who passed away last September, served as Mayor of Columbus from 2003 to 2007. He had previously been a City Counselor from 1994 to 2002. Throughout Mayor Poydasheff's career, he strongly advocated on behalf of veterans in the Columbus community because he was a veteran himself, having served in the United States Army for twenty-four years before retiring at the rank of colonel. He began his military service as an Infantry Officer, where he served one combat tour in Vietnam, before transferring to the Judge Advocate General Corps where he worked in several positions for the Secretary of the Army.

Mayor Poydasheff embodied the Army values of loyalty, duty, respect and selfless service to his fellow veterans and his country. We would like to honor his outstanding legacy. To that end, we offer our support, and encourage the committee to support legislation remaining the Columbus facility as the Robert S. Poydasheff Veterans Clinic.

Sincerely,

CAROLYN V. SMALL,
Commander, Disabled
American Veterans,
Department of Georgia.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I enthusiastically support the naming of the Columbus, Georgia, VA Community Clinic in Robert S. Poydasheff's honor.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3475, a bill to name the VA community-based outpatient clinic, or the CBOC, in Columbus, Georgia, the Robert S. Poydasheff VA Clinic. I am grateful to Congressman SANFORD BISHOP from Georgia for introducing this bill.

Mr. Poydasheff was a soldier in the United States Army for 24 years. He served as an infantry officer in Vietnam and later as a judge advocate. He continued to serve his country and community after his time in the Army by pursuing a career in public service and elected office.

Mr. Speaker, I hope that all of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle

will join me in supporting this bill today in honor of him, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BISHOP), my good friend, the chairman of the Agriculture Subcommittee of the House Committee on Appropriations, and also a former member of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chair, Chair TAKANO, for yielding time. I thank the ranking member, along with you and the entire Committee on Veterans' Affairs for all the work that you do in support of our Nation's veterans and, of course, this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleague, DREW FERGUSON, in offering this legislation to honor the former mayor of Columbus, Georgia, Colonel Robert Stephen "Bob" Poydasheff, Sr.

The naming of this VA clinic in Columbus for Bob Poydasheff honors a great champion of veterans, an exceptional soldier, a distinguished public servant, and a dear friend.

Mr. Speaker, this bill is endorsed by the Veterans of Foreign Wars, The American Legion, and the Disabled American Veterans, and it is cosponsored by every single member of the Georgia congressional delegation.

Sadly, Bob passed away last year on September 24. He was a native of the Bronx, New York, and he was born with an innate determination to excel, which was apparent in virtually every single aspect of his life. He served honorably in the United States Army for 24 years, and he retired at the rank of colonel.

He began his distinguished military career as an infantry officer, serving one combat tour in Vietnam before transferring to the Judge Advocate General's Corps.

In recognition of his service to our country, he received the Vietnam Ribbon, the Legion of Merit, and the Army Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters. He was also elected to the Ranger Hall of Fame, located at Fort Benning, Georgia.

□ 1715

Following his military service, Bob Poydasheff made Columbus, Georgia, his permanent home. Through his leadership, first as a member of the city council, then as mayor of the city, Columbus experienced extraordinary growth and prosperity.

He was a longtime advocate working on behalf of disadvantaged veterans, including supporting the location of the new VA clinic in Columbus, which this bill will name in his honor. Bob will be missed, but his legacy will live on through the lives of veterans who will be helped at this clinic.

It has been said that you make your living by what you get, you make your life by what you give. Robert S. "Bob" Poydasheff gave so much to so many for so long, and this clinic memorializes his legacy.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me and my colleague, from Georgia, DREW FERGUSON, the entire Georgia delegation, the VFW, the American Legion, the DAV, in supporting this bill to name the new community-based outpatient VA clinic in Columbus, Georgia, the Robert S. Poydasheff VA Clinic.

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this legislation, and I ask all of my colleagues to join me in that, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I am prepared to close.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in passing H.R. 3475, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3475.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 17 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1830

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. DEUTCH) at 6 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS EXPIRING AUTHORITIES ACT OF 2021

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5293) to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend and modify certain authorities and requirements relating to the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 423, nays 0, not voting 8, as follows:

Adams
Aderholt
Aguiar
Allred
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Auchincloss
Axne
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bentz
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Bice (OK)
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NC)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Boebert
Bonamici
Bost
Bourdeaux
Bowman
Boyle, Brendan
F.
Brady
Brooks
Brown
Brownley
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burchett
Burgess
Bush
Bustos
Butterfield
Calvert
Cammack
Cárdenas
Cárdenas
Carl
Carson
Carter (GA)
Carter (LA)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Cawthorn
Chabot
Cheney
Chu
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Cline
Cloud
Clyburn
Clyde
Cohen
Cole
Comer
Connolly
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crist
Crow
Cuellar
Curtis
Davids (KS)
Davidson
Davis, Danny K.
Davis, Rodney
Dean
DeFazio

[Roll No. 261]

YEAS—423

DeGette
DeLauro
DeBene
Delgado
Demings
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Donalds
Doyle, Michael
F.
Duncan
Dunn
Ellzey
Emmer
Escobar
Eshoo
Español
Estes
Evans
Fallon
Feenstra
Ferguson
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Fortenberry
Foster
Foxy
Frankel, Lois
Franklin, C.
Scott
Fulcher
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garbarino
Garcia (CA)
Garcia (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gibbs
Gimenez
Gohmert
Golden
Gomez
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez,
Vicente
Good (VA)
Gooden (TX)
Gosar
Gottheimer
Granger
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Green, Al (TX)
Greene (GA)
Griffith
Grijalva
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Hagedorn
Harder (CA)
Harris
Harshbarger
Hartzler
Hayes
Hern
Herrell
Herrera Beutler
Hice (GA)
Higgins (LA)
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Himes
Hinson
Hollingsworth
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hudson
Huffman
Huizenga
Issa
Jackson
Jackson Lee
Jacobs (CA)
Jacobs (NY)

Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Johnson (TX)
Jones
Jordan
Joyce (PA)
Kahale
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Keller
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim (CA)
Kim (NJ)
Kind
Kinzinger
Kirkpatrick
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Kustoff
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamb
Lamborn
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latta
LaTurner
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Leger Fernandez
Letlow
Levin (CA)
Levin (MI)
Lieu
Lofgren
Long
Lowenthal
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luria
Lynch
Mace
Malinowski
Malliotakis
Maloney,
Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Mann
Manning
Massie
Mast
Matsui
McBath
McCarthy
McCaull
McClain
McClintock
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McNerney
Meeks
Meijer
Meng
Meuser
Mfume
Miller (IL)
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Moolenaar
Mooney
Moore (AL)
Moore (UT)
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moulton
Mrvan
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (NC)
Nadler
Napolitano

Neal
Neguse
Nehls
Newhouse
Newman
Norcross
Norman
Nunes
O'Halloran
Oberholte
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Owens
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pappas
Pascarell
Payne
Pence
Perlmutter
Perry
Peters
Pfluger
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Posey
Pressley
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Reed
Reschenthaler
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Rosendale
Ross
Rouzer
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger

Allen
Gonzalez (OH)
Joyce (OH)

Rush
Rutherford
Ryan
Salazar
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scalise
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schrier
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sessions
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Simpson
Sires
Slotkin
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Soto
Spanberger
Spartz
Speier
Stansbury
Stanton
Stauber
Steel
Stefanik
Stell
Steube
Stevens
Stewart
Strickland
Suozzi
Swalwell
Takano
Taylor

NOT VOTING—8

Lesko
Loudermilk
Mullin
Palazzo
Roy

□ 1857

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

| | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Baird (Walorski) | Katko (Kim (CA)) | Rice (NY) (Peters) |
| Cárdenas (Gomez) | Kirkpatrick (Stanton) | Rice (SC) (Wilson (SC)) |
| Carter (TX) (Calvert) | Latta (Walberg) | Rush (Underwood) |
| Cooper (Clark (MA)) | Lawson (FL) (Evans) | Ryan (Kildee) |
| DeSaulnier (Thompson (CA)) | Manning (Clark (MA)) | Smith (WA) (Kilmer) |
| DesJarlais (Fleischmann) | McEachin (Wexton) | Spartz (Walorski) |
| Frankel, Lois (Clark (MA)) | Meng (Jeffries) | Stefanik (Meuser) |
| Fulcher (Johnson (OH)) | Morelle (Tonko) | Strickland (Torres (NY)) |
| Grijalva (García (IL)) | Napolitano (Correa) | Waltz (Gimenez) |
| | Payne (Wasserman Schultz) | Wild (Scanlon) |
| | | Wilson (FL) (Hayes) |

MOMENT OF SILENCE IN REMEMBRANCE OF SERVICEMEMBERS KILLED IN AFGHANISTAN ON AUGUST 26, 2021

The SPEAKER. The Chair asks all Members in the Chamber, as well as Members and staff throughout the Capitol, to rise for a moment of silence in remembrance of the following servicemembers who were killed during the

terrorist attack in Kabul, Afghanistan, on August 26, 2021:

Marine Corps Lance Corporal David L. Espinoza

Marine Corps Sergeant Nicole L. Gee

Marine Corps Staff Sergeant Darin T. Hoover

Army Staff Sergeant Ryan C. Knauss

Marine Corps Corporal Hunter Lopez

Marine Corps Lance Corporal Rylee J. McCollum

Marine Corps Lance Corporal Dylan R. Merola

Marine Corps Lance Corporal Kareem M. Nikoui

Marine Corps Corporal Daegan W. Page

Marine Corps Sergeant Johanny Rosario Pichardo

Marine Corps Corporal Humberto A. Sanchez

Marine Corps Lance Corporal Jared M. Schmitz

Navy Hospitalman Maxton W. Soviak

The House will observe a moment of silence in honor of their bravery.

VETERANS' COMPENSATION COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENT ACT OF 2021

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DEUTCH). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 189) to increase, effective as of December 1, 2021, the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 423, nays 0, not voting 8, as follows:

[Roll No. 262]

YEAS—423

Adams Blunt Rochester Carter (LA)

Aderholt Boebert Carter (TX)

Aguilar Bonamici Cartwright

Allred Bost Case

Amodel Bourdeaux Casten

Armstrong Bowman Castor (FL)

Arrington Boyle, Brendan Castro (TX)

Auchincloss F. Cawthorn

Axne Brady Chabot

Babin Brooks Cheney

Bacon Brown Chu

Baird Brownley Cicilline

Balderson Buchanan Clark (MA)

Banks Buck Cleaver

Barr Bucshon Cline

Barragán Budd Cloud

Bass Burchett Clyburn

Beatty Burgess Clyde

Bentz Bush Cohen

Bera Bustos Cole

Bergman Butterfield Comer

Beyer Calvert Connolly

Bice (OK) Cammack Cooper

Biggs Carbajal Correa

Bilirakis Cárdenas Costa

Bishop (GA) Carl Courtney

Bishop (NC) Carson Craig

Blumenauer Carter (GA) Crawford

Crenshaw

Crist

Crow

Cuellar

Curtis

Dauids (KS)

Davidson

Davis, Danny K.

Davis, Rodney

Dean

DeFazio

DeGette

DeLauro

DelBene

Delgado

Demings

DeSaulnier

DesJarlais

Deutch

Diaz-Balart

Dingell

Doggett

Donalds

Doyle, Michael

F.

Duncan

Dunn

Ellzey

Emmer

Escobar

Eshoo

Espallat

Estes

Evans

Fallon

Feenstra

Ferguson

Fischbach

Fitzgerald

Fitzpatrick

Fleischmann

Fletcher

Fortenberry

Foster

Fox

Frankel, Lois

Franklin, C.

Scott

Fulcher

Gaetz

Gallagher

Gallego

Garamendi

Garbarino

Garcia (CA)

Garcia (IL)

Garcia (TX)

Gibbs

Gimenez

Gohmert

Golden

Gomez

Gonzales, Tony

Gonzalez,

Vicente

Good (VA)

Gooden (TX)

Gosar

Gottheimer

Granger

Graves (LA)

Graves (MO)

Green (TN)

Green, Al (TX)

Greene (GA)

Griffith

Grijalva

Grothman

Guest

Guthrie

Huffman

Huizenga

Issa

Jackson

Jackson Lee

Jacobs (CA)

Jacobs (NY)

Jayapal

Jeffries

Johnson (GA)

Johnson (LA)

Johnson (OH)

Johnson (SD)

Johnson (TX)

Jones

Jordan

Joyce (OH)

Joyce (PA)

Kahele

Kaptur

Katko

Keating

Keller

Kelly (IL)

Kelly (MS)

Kelly (PA)

Khan

Khan

Kildee

Kilmer

Kim (CA)

Kim (NJ)

Kind

Kinzie

Kirkpatrick

Krishnamoorthi

Kuster

Kustoff

LaHood

LaMalfa

Lamb

Lamborn

Langevin

Larsen (WA)

Larson (CT)

Latta

LaTurner

Lawrence

Lawson (FL)

Lee (CA)

Lee (NV)

Leger Fernandez

Letlow

Levin (CA)

Levin (MI)

Lieu

Lofgren

Long

Lowenthal

Lucas

Luetkemeyer

Luria

Lynch

Mace

Mallotakis

Maloney,

Carolyn B.

Maloney, Sean

Mann

Manning

Massie

Mast

Matsui

McBath

McCarthy

McCaul

McClain

McClintock

McCollum

McEachin

McGovern

McHenry

McKinley

McNerney

Meeks

Meijer

Meng

Meuser

Mfume

Miller (IL)

Miller (WV)

Miller-Meeks

Moolenaar

Mooney

Moore (AL)

Moore (UT)

Moore (WI)

Morelle

Moulton

Mrvan

Mullin

Murphy (FL)

Murphy (NC)

Nadler

Napolitano

Neguse

Nehls

Newhouse

Newman

Norcross

Norman

Nunes

O'Halleran

Obernolte

Ocasio-Cortez

Omar

Owens

Palazzo

Pallone

Palmer

Panetta

Pappas

Pascarell

Payne

Pence

Perlmutter

Perry

Peters

Pfleger

Phillips

Pingree

Pocan

Porter

Posey

Pressley

Price (NC)

Quigley

Raskin

Reed

Reschenthaler

Rice (NY)

Rice (SC)

Rodgers (WA)

Rogers (AL)

Rogers (KY)

Rose

Rosendale

Ross

Rouzer

Roy

Roybal-Allard

Ruiz

Ruppersberger

Rush

Rutherford

Ryan

Salazar

Sánchez

Sarbanes

Scalise

Scanlon

Schakowsky

Schiff

Schneider

Schrader

Schrier

Schweikert

Scott (VA)

Scott, Austin

Scott, David

Sessions

Sewell

□ 1930

COMMEMORATING 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF REPEAL OF DON'T ASK, DON'T TELL

(Mr. LANGEVIN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LANGEVIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the repeal of Don't Ask, Don't Tell.

For over 18 years, this discriminatory policy resulted in the discharge of thousands of brave, honorable, and capable servicemembers, solely due to their sexual orientation.

On December 22, 2010, the Don't Ask, Don't Tell Repeal Act was signed into law, and the policy officially ended 10 years ago today.

As a longtime supporter of repeal, I was thrilled when years of advocacy and determination paid off in the victory for dignity and equality.

LGBTQ servicemembers are an integral part of our Nation's defense, and they deserve our eternal support and gratitude for the sacrifices they make every day to keep us safe.

Please join me in commemorating this historic day and in thanking all LGBTQ servicemembers and veterans for their service to our Nation.

LIFE IS A PRECIOUS GIFT FROM GOD

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, any attack against the sanctity of human life tears the moral fabric of this great country.

H.R. 3755, the abortion on demand until birth act, is yet another scheme levied against the most vulnerable group in this country, the unborn. This legislation would impose abortion on demand for any reason until birth. What's more, it would override past and future pro-life laws at both the State and Federal levels.

Madam Speaker, the unborn deserve a voice in the people's House who stands for them, and I am proud to be one of the many in this body who do so. Let us never forget that life is a precious gift from God, and that gift should never be squandered under any circumstances.

REPRESENTATIVE DEMOCRACY IS NOT FOR THE LAZY OR THE FAINT OF HEART

(Ms. SCANLON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SCANLON. Madam Speaker, in 1787, Benjamin Franklin was asked what type of government our founders had created with the U.S. Constitution, and his response was: "A republic, if you can keep it."

Why? Because representative democracy is not for the lazy or the faint of heart. American democracy relies upon an informed, engaged citizenry. We require immigrants to pass a difficult test when they become citizens, but we currently require little to ensure that our children are prepared for that role.

I have been a proponent of civics education for my entire life, and it is more important than ever to help our schools provide high quality civic education. Our young people need to understand how government works; how they can effectively advocate for themselves and their communities; and how to navigate the masses of disinformation found online.

Last Friday, on Constitution Day, I introduced a bipartisan bill with Representative MEIJER, the Teaching Engaged Citizenship Act, to promote high-quality, evidence-based civic education and service learning programs in K-12 public schools.

Our Constitution has a rich, complicated history. If we want to keep it, we need to teach it.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF DWIGHT EMANUELSON

(Mr. CARTER of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to remember and honor Dwight Emanuelson of Hilton Head, South Carolina, who sadly passed recently at the age of 88.

Dwight had an impactful career serving his community. After graduating from Cornell University, he began a lifelong career as a successful broker that brought him to Savannah, Georgia. Although Dwight worked in the financial services industry for over 60 years, his passion for life and love for his family is what defined him.

Dwight also had a lifelong passion for art, which he shared generously with the Telfair Museum of Art in Savannah.

When Dwight wasn't admiring artwork, he was enjoying the outdoors with his children and grandchildren. Dwight's dedication to improving the lives of others will never be forgotten.

I am proud to rise today to honor Dwight and his lifetime of service to Georgia's First Congressional District. My thoughts and prayers are with his family, friends, and all who knew him during this most difficult time.

RIGHTING A WRONG

(Ms. PRESSLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. PRESSLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to right a wrong. Shortly after his passing, there was an op-ed written about Bob Moses which characterized him as "the most important civil rights hero most Americans never heard of." I painfully agree.

Bob Moses has never been given the credit he deserved. Fortunately for us, his ego was small, but his impact was giant.

Bob Moses was a relentless organizer and seeker of justice and equitable access to the ballot box as a SNCC organizer and a transformative educator as the founder of the Algebra Project.

He was a loving husband, father, and generous mentor.

Much like his iconic overalls, Bob Moses was unassuming and resilient. Days before he transitioned, Moses was still fighting, this time for critical COVID relief funds to be used to finally reinvent the math classroom.

He said: "The problem is not the willingness or ability of students to succeed, rather the systemic inequities teachers and students of color face."

He once posed the question: "What do you do when the country has a sickness?"

I can say, the cure for our Nation's sickness of systemic racism and inequality is to model that which Mr. Moses demonstrated throughout this life. May we honor him now, in a way that matters most: Change.

Rest in power, Mr. Moses.

CELEBRATING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF BRAINERD, MINNESOTA

(Mr. STAUBER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. STAUBER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Brainerd, Minnesota, a city in my district that is celebrating 150 years of culture, history, and exceptionalism.

As the weeklong celebration begins with festivals and a beautiful park dedication, it is important to recognize what makes Brainerd so special.

Located along the mighty Mississippi River and surrounded by many of Minnesota's 10,000 lakes, what started out as a railroad town has evolved into a bustling community where countless Americans have chosen to open a business, engage in commerce, and recreate.

While Brainerd has grown and evolved throughout the past 150 years, one thing has always remained the same: it is an excellent place to live and raise a family.

As we celebrate 150 years of Brainerd, I want to recognize the former and current community leaders, business owners, and families who have made this community great. I could not be prouder to represent this amazing community in Congress.

Here is to 150 more years of prosperity and excellence.

FAIR TREATMENT OF LOCAL FARMERS

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise tonight in support of the Biden administration's new guidance regarding the Packers and Stockyards Act, and heartened that the administration took swift and decisive action to protect small farmers and local producers. Too often, local farmers suffer economically at the expense of large integrators that practice oppressive tactics in the marketplace and thwart the ability of small producers to flourish.

The COVID-19 pandemic exposed great frailties in our food supply chains. And while Americans are paying higher prices, 14 percent on beef, 12 percent on pork, and 6.6 percent on poultry, the country's top four largest meat processors have increasingly gained the lion's share of the market since the 1970s. They control the entire market, the largest producers.

Meanwhile, poultry giants Tysons and Purdue recently settled a \$35 million lawsuit in which local contract growers cited the combination of low wages and the financial demands of compliance with the companies' barn standards that unjustly pushed them into a debtor's prison.

The action taken by the administration will help smaller farmers stand strong, achieve fair contracts, and come forward to speak their truth, without the fear and threat of retaliation.

Congratulations to the Biden administration for doing something that is fair and just.

HIGHLIGHTING THE BENEFITS OF HYDROPOWER

(Mr. LAMALFA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, I speak tonight about the advocacy and the positives we have of hydroelectric dams in my home State and in our country. They provide hydroelectric power, which is green power, which is renewable power. Yet, that seems to be forgotten these days when they are more and more trying to remove hydroelectric dams from our grid.

It is clean power; it is available 24 hours a day. You don't have to wait for the sun to come up or wind to blow.

Hydroelectric dams have several multiple use purposes, such as storing water for people or for agriculture. That water is available for dipping out of when you have aircraft that need to get water supply for fighting forest fires like we have over a million acres of in my home State, in Northern California.

Water transfers can help with the wildlife; with helping to have switches so that they can have water for aquatic species, for swapping during the year.

So why are we wanting to remove hydroelectric dams?

In California, we even have issues with having to shut off power usage, what is called flex alerts. What is even

funnier is that you have shut them off from 3 to 9 p.m. on charging your electric car.

So we should utilize our hydroelectric dams and all the multiple positive uses they have, and not tear them out, like on the Klamath Basin.

HUMANITARIAN HAITIAN IMMIGRANT RELIEF

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I want the Haitian community in America and in the United States to know that we have not forgotten them.

Haiti has been a strong ally of the United States that, unfortunately, has been caught in the quagmire of destructive poverty and, of course, governments that sometimes have not worked. Recently, they experienced a horrific earthquake; 800,000 people homeless.

So now that we see Haitians by the thousands coming to our border, we have an obligation not to deport them. We have an obligation to provide the potential review that comes about by having the number of immigration personnel to determine their status. We have an obligation for humanitarian relief.

I know our borders are closed; I recognize that. But I also know that there is opportunity for asylum through credible fear, and there is also an opportunity to deal with whether or not these individuals have family members.

Let me simply say, Madam Speaker, the question we have now is sending these Haitians to a country that is so impoverished and violent is not the right way to go. Let's work together to do it right.

HONORING THE LIVES OF COACH GUY THOMAS AND COACH MARK MCGARITY

(Mr. DONALDS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DONALDS. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the lives of Coach Guy Thomas and Coach Mark McGarity, two beloved track and field coaches of the Southwest Florida community who both passed away on July 13 of this year.

Coach Guy Thomas tragically passed away after being hospitalized in critical condition after contracting COVID-19. A track and field coach at Dunbar High School, Mr. Thomas dedicated his life to training and mentoring our young athletes on the field. A highly respected coach, Mr. Thomas led his team to numerous Lee County Athletic Conference wins and coached multiple State champions.

Retired Coach Mark McGarity also lost his life to a battle with cancer. Mr. McGarity served the Collier County

community as a coach and teacher for 38 years, and for 15 years served as the cross country and track coach at Lely High School.

I am proud that the State of Florida has access to such esteemed and beloved educators that allow our youth to flourish, both in the classroom and on the field.

As the Representative for Florida's 19th Congressional District, it is my honor to stand here today celebrating the lives of two Americans who dedicated themselves to bettering our youth and serving as role models to the Southwest Florida community.

HONORING THOSE WHO LOST THEIR LIVES IN AFGHANISTAN

(Mr. GOHMERT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GOHMERT. Madam Speaker, tonight we paid tribute to the 13 fallen American military who died as Afghanistan was being abandoned by this administration to the Taliban, who are now more powerful than they have ever been, have more equipment than they ever had.

What we didn't pay tribute to tonight—it somehow got lost in the shuffle—is over 2,400 of our precious military lives that were lost fighting for their country in Afghanistan. They kept us safe, relatively safe for 20 years. But they should not be forgotten.

There are over 1,800 civilian contractors that were killed. There were 600 military killed in Afghanistan under Commander in Chief Bush; 1,800 under Commander in Chief Obama. They should not be forgotten. They served their country.

□ 1945

BUILDING AMERICA BACK BETTER

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. NEWMAN). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I am delighted to be representing the Congressional Black Caucus as the Special Order chair.

I want to thank our chairwoman, JOYCE BEATTY, for her leadership on ensuring that the message of the Congressional Black Caucus—Our Power, Our Message—is reflected on the floor of this House and to the American people, to our constituents, the millions and millions of Americans that the 57 members of the Congressional Black Caucus represent.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of this Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Texas?

There was no objection.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, it is clear that we will be dealing with Build Back Better for the time of this week and into next week, so the Congressional Black Caucus will come very briefly this week to discuss and let our constituents and Americans know that any distorted representation of the \$3.5 trillion, as not being able to afford it or that it is too extensive, is really a misrepresentation.

First of all, we support, as the Congressional Black Caucus, Build Back Better enthusiastically. It is a \$3.5 trillion package over 10 years for a country that is nearing 350 million people, a country that has not seen infrastructure investment, climate investment, investment to deal with electric cars, investment to deal with the new economy, the care economy—we have not seen this for decades, or at least we have not seen this as we have moved into the 21st century.

The Build Back Better plan makes the transformative investments that we need to continue our growing economy, lower costs for working families, and position the United States as a global leader in the innovation and jobs of the future.

The \$3.5 trillion gross investment will build on the successes of the American Rescue Plan and set our Nation on a path of fiscal responsibility and broadly shared prosperity for generations to come.

Almost 4 years ago, in 2017, the Houston area and most of the Southern region, all the way to Florida, including some of our Commonwealths, experienced Hurricane Harvey.

This is my district, where the water looked like an extended ocean—\$155 billion worth of damage, so much damage that we are continuing to work with it. Why? Because we did not have the infrastructure. We did not have the bayous that were constructed in a way that would hold the water. So much damage, so much loss, so much pain.

So a combination of the INVEST Act and Build Back Better is a must. They must walk hand-in-hand. One without the other does not answer the call of the American people. It does not reflect the Lincolnian attitude that we all are in this together.

Let me read a quote from President Lincoln, who reminds us so much whenever we speak of the idea of what America is. Abraham Lincoln, in 1862, as he was seeing the divide coming into this Nation, offered these words: “The dogmas of the quiet past are inadequate to the stormy present. The occasion is piled high with difficulty, and we must rise with the occasion. As our case is new, so we must think anew and act anew. We must disenthrall ourselves, and then we shall save our country.”

As we move forward with Build Back Better and the INVEST Act, the \$3.5

trillion and the \$1 trillion, there is no time to isolate ourselves as one or I or me. This is a time when we stand with America as we, working to ensure that this magnificent contribution to the infrastructure—to some of the worst infrastructure problems, from dams to highways to the electric grid—can also stand alongside childcare and the care economy.

For example, in the State of Texas, this bill would help the local economy. It would send more than \$400 million in Texas to support the expansion of an electric vehicle charging network, with up to \$2.5 billion more available through grants.

Texas would also receive \$3 billion to improve pipes and the delivery of clean drinking water so needed in our State, in urban and rural communities.

And Texas would benefit from the bill's \$3.5 billion investment in weatherizing energy grids across the country. Millions of Texans who sat shivering in their dark living rooms during the last winter's freeze will undoubtedly welcome that improvement. We lost over 150 people in that short span in February when we saw temperatures in Texas that we had never imagined. People literally froze in their beds. One comes to mind that is so emotional: An 11-year-old boy froze in his bed in February 2021.

Critically, the bill would provide at least \$100 million for broadband access in a State where 14 percent of households don't have an internet subscription, and 4 percent of Texans have no broadband infrastructure at all.

My view is that we cannot simply go for one versus the other. Let me just tell you about the Build Back Better \$3.5 trillion bill.

It will provide childcare to help our workforce and contribute to the economy where that is needed. Therefore, the plan supports families in need of childcare, providing access to safe, reliable, high-quality childcare, delivered by well-trained childcare providers.

As it relates to education, we will be productive and having our children have high-quality education. That is why this plan makes necessary investments to increase quality education by 4 years for all students at no cost to hardworking parents. The plan will provide 2 years of free pre-K and 2 years of free community college. We are investing in people.

In regard to healthcare, too many Americans are forced to choose between medical care and putting food on the table. The plan expands access to quality, affordable healthcare by strengthening the Medicare, Medicaid, and Affordable Care marketplace programs that millions of Americans rely on. But now more could be added, in addition to providing dental, hearing, and vision benefits. That is when we go it together. Not I's and me's, but we, us together.

Paid leave that can help us get on our feet when we are having issues with family and healthcare.

Tackling the climate crisis. We have seen the ravages of hurricanes. We have seen Hurricane Ida—devastation that is unspeakable, electricity that people do not have, a million people without electricity. The climate crisis and climate change are here. It is crucial that we begin to invest in a plan that empowers comprehensive action to build an equitable, clean energy economy with historic investments to transform and modernize the electricity sector. It is imperative that we do that.

We must take a moment to pause and to recognize that any positive steps on climate will be because of us, because of the most powerful lawmaking body in the Nation, taking a moment to pause and realistically confronting it, providing the research dollars, working with universities, such as the University of Houston Energy Institute and Texas Southern University, looking at ways to provide the best approach to a green approach and climate response as well as providing the necessary research on new kinds of energy. That is what we need to do.

Just for a moment, may I step back to the point about healthcare. We know it all too well in Houston. We were the poster child in Texas for the most uninsured persons when the Affordable Care Act was implemented. Six million people, 25 percent of the State of Texas, were uninsured. We still do not have access to healthcare as we should.

Then to add this horrific burden and insult to the women of Texas, to write the most heinous bill that would, in fact, disallow a woman's access to healthcare, this horrible bill that would have a bounty hunter that would seek to follow you in the midst of you getting good healthcare. I think this is clearly an unfortunate set of circumstances that we should correct.

Healthcare, your own personal decision with your provider, your faith, and your family, choices that no one wants to make, yet this State law was put in place to create a vigilante community to attack women and those that might help them provide access to healthcare. That is what it is, access to healthcare, a decision that no one offers to make lightly. But here we are, a vigilante being enticed by \$10,000—gossip, spying, standing outside dorm rooms, watching Uber cars, standing in front of doctors' offices, standing in front of organizations like Planned Parenthood that deal with healthcare for women, and just plain providing a sense of intimidation and fear.

That brings me to the legislation that we hope that we will see passing, H.R. 5226, Preventing Vigilante Stalking that Stops Women's Access to Healthcare and Abortion Rights Act of 2021. I hope my colleagues will join me in a simple bill that simply says you don't have the right to stalk a woman who is seeking healthcare. It may be that she is going for a mammogram. You don't know. But by creating this

atmosphere of money being given to a whole industry of people, ne'er-do-wells and others, some with good intentions in their mind but seeking to make profit on someone else's pain, that is unacceptable. I hope my colleagues will join me in that legislation.

Healthcare is a right, and we should give that to families, to women, to men, to children, and to seniors. That is what building America back better will do.

Affordable housing, helping homeless persons, tax cuts for families and workers, I am so grateful. And I want everybody to know how Democrats worked so hard for the child tax credit—excuse me, let me correct that—the child tax cut. In fact, as I hear it, my constituents, your constituents, their constituents, are receiving those child tax cuts right now. Many people are making ends meet, helping their children get into school.

That is what Democrats do, and that is what this bill is going to do—research, development, and innovation on good, forward-thinking infrastructure.

Working with HBCUs, helping them be historically relevant but also helping them to be stronger in terms of their infrastructure. I support that and thank one of our colleagues, Congresswoman ALMA ADAMS, who has been a leader on making sure our HBCUs are front and center, are surviving. These are our historic colleges founded in the 1800s.

□ 2000

Immigration, of course, is a very important issue, and I might say, another issue that we worked on in the Judiciary Committee with our allotment of \$107 billion, and that is, of course, community violence intervention. We put in \$2.5 billion on community violence intervention. And that of course was \$107 billion, \$107.5 billion in Judiciary. Part of that, of course, was to deal with the issue of community violence intervention.

So you can see there is no time to waste. There is no time to delay. There is only time to work hard on getting this legislation passed. We must do it as an INVEST Act, we must do it as a budget reconciliation, or the Build Back Better Act of 2021, the better name. We must do it together.

The Congressional Black Caucus stands to be able to say, “No more Hurricane Harveys,” but more, work with communities, rebuilding streets, historic preservation, and making a difference. That is what historic infrastructure investment can do, and that is what we in the Congressional Black Caucus stand for.

I look forward to us continuing our discussion. Madam Speaker, I take the opportunity at this point in the name of unity, reconciliation, a new pathway for transformational government, passing of the INVEST Act, passing of the Build Back Better Act, and making sure that we have voting rights, that

we give women the right to choose, that we pass H.R. 40, the commission to study slavery and develop reparation proposals. A long agenda. I know that we can do this in the spirit of unity.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the Congressional Black Caucus, I yield back the balance of my time.

Madam Speaker, as a senior member of the Committees on the Judiciary, on Homeland Security, and on the Budget, and the Congressional Black Caucus, I am pleased to co-anchor this Congressional Black Caucus Special Order with my colleague, the distinguished gentleman from New York, Congressman RITCHIE TORRES.

I thank the Chair of the CBC, Congresswoman BEATTY of Ohio, for organizing this Special Order to discuss the reasons why the CBC strongly supports the Build Back Better Agenda conceived and advanced by President Biden and House Democrats to support visionary and transformative investments in the health, well-being, and financial security of America's workers and families.

Over the next hour, several of our colleagues will share their perspectives on why it is essential that we “go big” in building back better to our nation and all of its people have the opportunities and resources to compete and win in the changing global economy of the 21st century.

Madam Speaker, it is often said that the federal budget is an expression of the nation's values and the investments made to Build America Back Better are a clear declaration of congressional Democrats' commitment to ensuring that our government, our economy, and our systems work For The People.

Madam Speaker, these long-overdue investments in America's future will be felt in every corner of the country and across every sector of American life, building on the success of the American Rescue Plan, accommodating historic infrastructure investments in the legislative pipeline, and addressing longstanding deficits in our communities by ending an era of chronic underinvestment so we can emerge from our current crises a stronger, more equitable nation.

Should our friends across the aisle join us in this endeavor, it would send a powerful signal to the American people if our colleagues across the aisle would join us in this effort because nothing would better show them that their elected representatives can set partisanship aside and put America first.

And that bipartisan achievement would portend success for similar initiatives in the area of strengthening the infrastructure of democracy in which every American has a vital interest, national and homeland security, and criminal justice and immigration reform.

I would urge my Republican colleagues to heed the words of Republican Governor Jim Justice of West Virginia who said colorfully several months ago:

At this point in time in this nation, we need to go big. We need to quit counting the egg-sucking legs on the cows and count the cows and just move. And move forward and move right now.

The same sentiment was expressed more eloquently by Abraham Lincoln in 1862 when he memorably wrote:

The dogmas of the quiet past are inadequate to the stormy present. The occasion is piled high with difficulty, and we must

rise with the occasion. As our case is new, so we must think anew and act anew. We must disenthrall ourselves, and then we shall save our country.

Madam Speaker, the bipartisan action we took in February 2021 when we passed the American Rescue Plan was a giant step in the right direction, but it was a targeted response to the immediate and urgent public health and economic crises; it was not a long-term solution to many of the pressing challenges facing our nation that have built up over decades of disinvestment in our nation and its people in every region and sector of the country.

We simply can no longer afford the costs of neglect and inaction; the time to act is now.

The Build Back Better Plan makes the transformative investments that we need to continue growing our economy, lower costs for working families, and position the United States as a global leader in innovation and the jobs of the future.

This \$3.5 trillion gross investment will build on the successes of the American Rescue Plan and set our nation on a path of fiscal responsibility and broadly shared prosperity for generations to come.

The Build Back Better Plan will provide resources to improve our education, health, and child care systems, invest in clean energy and sustainability, address the housing crisis, and more; all while setting America up to compete and win in the decades ahead.

The Build Back Better Plan is paid for by ensuring that the wealthy and big corporations are paying their fair share and Americans making less than \$400,000 a year will not see their taxes increase by a penny.

Let me repeat that: No American making less than \$400,000 a year will not see their taxes increase by a penny.

In sum, Madam Speaker, the investments made by the Build Back Better Plan will expand opportunity for all and build an economy powered by shared prosperity and inclusive growth.

No one is better prepared or more experienced to lead the American renaissance that will be produced by the investments made by the Build Back Better Plan than President Biden, the architect of the American Rescue Plan and who as Vice-President during the Obama Administration oversaw the implementation of the Recovery Act, which saved millions of jobs and rescued our economy from the Great Recession the nation inherited from a previous Republican administration.

And let us not forget that President Obama also placed his confidence in his vice-president to oversee the rescue of the automotive industry, which he did so well that the American car industry fully recovered its status as the world leader.

Madam Speaker, let me briefly highlight some of the key investments made by the Build Back Better Plan:

EDUCATION

The Plan will provide two years of free pre-K and two years of free community college to ensure every student has the tools, resources, and opportunity to succeed in life.

It will also invest in our teachers and institutions that serve minority students and provide funding to give school buildings long-overdue infrastructure updates.

Children lead happier, healthier, and more productive lives when they have had access to high-quality education and that is why the

Build Back Better Plan makes necessary investments to increase quality education by four years for all students at no cost to hard-working families.

HEALTH CARE

The Build Back Better Plan expands access to quality, affordable health care by strengthening the Medicare, Medicaid, and Affordable Care Act (ACA) Marketplace programs that millions of Americans already rely on.

It includes a major new expansion of Medicare benefits, adding a dental, hearing, and vision benefit to the program for the very first time.

It strengthens the ACA by extending the enhanced Marketplace subsidies that were included in the American Rescue Plan.

It also provides an affordable coverage option for the more than two million Americans living in states that have not expanded Medicaid under the ACA and do not earn enough to qualify for Marketplace subsidies.

The Build Back Better Plan's investment in home- and community-based services will increase access to critical services and create new and better-paying jobs for care providers.

When the Build Back Better Plan is fully implemented soon gone will be the terrible old days when too many Americans are forced to choose between medical care and putting food on the table or affording other necessities.

CHILD CARE

The Build Back Better Plan supports families in need of child care by providing access to safe, reliable, and high-quality care delivered by a well-trained child care workforce.

This is important because our nation is strongest when everyone can join the workforce and contribute to the economy.

That is why this investment is vital to so many millions of—especially women—who are often forced to choose between working to support their family or caring for their family.

PAID LEAVE

Madam Speaker, the United States is the richest nation in the world but one of the few modern democracies that lacks a paid leave program.

The Build Back Better Plan remedies this shameful failing by creating a national, comprehensive paid family and medical leave program, providing direct support to workers and families.

This crucial investment will allow workers to take the time they need to bond with a new child, care for their own serious illness, or care for a seriously ill loved one without risking needed income or employment.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

In the area of housing, the Build Back Better Plan makes investments to ensure that Americans have access to safe and affordable housing by providing resources to increase housing vouchers and funding for tribal housing.

It also supports investments in programs that will help address our nation's housing crisis by increasing the supply of affordable homes for those in need and investing in historically underserved communities and those that have been previously left behind.

TACKLING CLIMATE CHANGE

The Build Back Better Plan will spur and empower comprehensive action to build an equitable clean energy economy with historic investments to transform and modernize the electricity sector, lower energy costs for Amer-

icans, improve air quality and public health, create good-paying jobs, and strengthen U.S. competitiveness—all while putting our country on the pathway to 100 percent carbon-free electricity by 2035.

The Build Back Better Plan extends and expands clean energy tax credits and supports clean electricity performance payments so utilities can accelerate progress toward a clean electric grid at no added cost to consumers.

The Build Back Better Plan invests in clean energy, efficiency, electrification, and climate justice through grants, consumer rebates, and federal procurement of clean power and sustainable materials, and by incentivizing private sector development and investment.

Another exciting aspect of the Build Back Better Plan, Madam Speaker, is that it will drive economic opportunities, environmental conservation, and climate resilience—especially in underserved and disadvantaged communities—including through a new Civilian Climate Corps.

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, AND INNOVATION
INFRASTRUCTURE

Madam Speaker, advances in science, technology, and manufacturing are creating the industries and jobs of the future, and we must ensure that they are created here.

That is why the Build Back Better Plan invests in America's ingenuity and competitiveness by revitalizing state-of-the-art laboratory facilities and research across the nation, including at historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs) and other minority-serving institutions (MSIs), through new regional innovation hubs, and through federal science agencies.

The Build Back Better Plan will reinvigorate U.S. manufacturing by supporting supply chain resilience and modernization, Manufacturing USA institutes, the Manufacturing Extension Partnership, and facilities and research at the National Institute of Standards and Technology, all of which will strengthen America's competitiveness in the global economy.

IMMIGRATION

Madam Speaker, as virtually every respected study has concluded, providing a pathway to lawful permanent resident (LPR) status for Dreamers, recipients of Temporary Protected Status (TPS), farmworkers, and essential workers will be a boon for our economy.

This Plan allows for investments to provide a pathway to LPR status for these immigrant communities.

Madam Speaker, immigrants eligible for such protection are an integral part of Texas's social fabric.

Texas is home to 386,300 immigrants who are eligible for protection, 112,000 of whom reside in Harris County.

These individuals live with 845,300 family members and among those family members, 178,700 are U.S.-born citizen children.

These persons in Texas who are eligible for protection under the bill arrived in the United States at the average age of 8 and on average have lived in the United States since 1996.

They own 43,500 homes in Texas and pay \$340,500,000 in annual mortgage payments and contribute \$2,234,800,000 in federal taxes and \$1,265,200,000 in state and local taxes each year.

Annually, these households generate \$10,519,000,000 in spending power in Texas and help power the national economy.

TAX CUTS FOR FAMILIES AND WORKERS

The expansion of the Child Tax Credit (CTC) enacted in the American Rescue Plan has already benefitted nearly 66 million children, put money in the pockets of millions of hard-working parents and guardians, and is expected to help cut child poverty by more than half.

The Build Back Better Plan not only extends this meaningful tax cut, but it also extends the expanded Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and the expanded Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit, which help families make ends meet and put food on the table, reduce child poverty, and lessen the burden on hard-working Americans so they can provide a better future for America's children.

REINING IN PRESCRIPTION DRUG COSTS

The Build Back Better Plan also achieves savings from following through on President Biden's call to give Medicare the power to negotiate lower prescription drug prices, saving money for patients as well as the federal government.

Madam Speaker, we have before us a once in a century opportunity to make gigantic progress in making ours a more perfect union, and to do it in a single bound with enactment of the Build Back Better Plan, the most transformative legislation passed by this Congress since the Great Society and the New Deal.

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I'd like to thank Chairwoman BEATTY and the Congressional Black Caucus for hosting this Special Order Hour on our priorities in the budget reconciliation and infrastructure negotiation processes, and thank Congresswoman JACKSON LEE and Congressman TORRES for facilitating it.

First, let me be very clear: I am certainly no fan of the partisanship and complexity associated with the reconciliation process. In an ideal world, in a perfect situation, this process would be defined by bipartisan agreements and give-and-take, and would be negotiated in a gradual, more transparent manner. But we do not live in an ideal world, nor is this a perfect situation. Right now, as we stand here today, millions of Americans are suffering, our infrastructure is crumbling, and our planet is quite literally on fire.

Now, Madam Speaker, I have served in this body for nearly 30 years—but I find myself struggling to recall a time when the cost of inaction was as high and as dangerous as it is in this moment. That's why the Black Caucus, under the leadership of Chairwoman BEATTY, has fought to include vital provisions in the Build Back Better Act that would transform our economy and infrastructure, provide relief from Americans still reeling from the effects of COVID-19, and form a blueprint for a more equitable, just society.

It's why I, as a Senior Member of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, voted to pass the portion of the Build Back Better Act dealing with investments in our nation's transportation and infrastructure systems. The most salient, underlying themes contained in the bill include investments in a race equitable transportation system, climate resiliency, transit programs targeted to residents in disadvantaged communities, resources for railroads, port infrastructure and supply chain resilience, and our water infrastructure, to name a few.

It's why I, as Chair of the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee, presided

over a markup of the portion of the Build Back Better Act dealing with the issues and agencies under our jurisdiction. We targeted giving our nation's scientists and engineers 21st century facilities to conduct research by investing billions of dollars into research infrastructure at the National Science Foundation, the Department of Energy, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the National Institute of Standards and Technology, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. These vital investments will also lead to good, high-paying jobs. We also invested billions of dollars into our innovation pipeline at our premier research agencies to power our research and development and our advanced manufacturing programs. This includes significant investments in minority-serving institutions and diversity programs at NSF and DOE. Finally, we funded billions of dollars to better understand and respond to the climate crisis. Included in this is vital funding to improve our understanding of climate-associated natural disasters like hurricanes, flooding, and wildfires.

Madam Speaker, I would urge all of my colleagues—Republican and Democrat, progressive and conservative, and everyone in between—to support these critical, much-needed investments in our constituents, in our districts, and in our country as a whole.

THREE IMPORTANT ISSUES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GROTHMAN) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. GROTHMAN. Madam Speaker, we are back from our August break, and there are three issues of tremendous importance that Congress ought to deal with and the press corps ought to be dealing with.

I can understand, by the way, why President Biden wants to change his view over a few months ago and go for mandates on the vaccine, because these other issues are issues that I am sure would be uncomfortable for him to address, but they are important for the press corps and important for the American people to address.

The first issue is: the Del Rio sector of the Mexican border is out of control. We all see the 15,000 people under the bridge, but what is the consequence of that?

What is the consequence of having 2 months in a row of over 200,000 people show up at the border? The Border Patrol has to get off the border, they have to shuffle people around from the Del Rio section to the El Paso section or to the Laredo section. They have to take care of all of the unaccompanied minors coming in here, and when they do that, they cannot guard the border. Things are out of control.

Not only are the agents in that area not able to focus on the area, but things are such a disaster, we are having to bring agents off the northern border to make up for the huge problems on the southern border.

What happens? We wind up in a situation which not only are there more

got-aways, people aren't even being processed crossing the border, but we also have a situation in which more drugs are coming off the border. The American public still hasn't been told enough that in the last year we have had over 90,000 people die of drug overdoses, largely from fentanyl coming across the Mexican border, and that is what happens when you have 224 miles barely monitored.

The Haitians are being brought here or encouraged to come here by the drug gangs. Why are they able to do this? It didn't happen by coincidence that you saw all these people under the bridge last week and they weren't over there a month ago.

The Biden administration has extended the Temporary Protected Status for people coming here from Haiti. When they changed this process, it was a recruiting tool for the gangs who want more people to come here.

I am going to emphasize, Haiti is not a very nice country, but these people are not coming from Haiti. They are coming here from Chile, they are coming here from Brazil, they are coming from Venezuela. Why are they coming from these other countries? It is not because they are in danger in Chile and Brazil. They are coming here because they can make more money here, and the drug cartel gangs are explaining that to them.

These gangs are charging these Haitians at least \$50,000 a person to come here, which is the reason why they are so involved in this.

Meanwhile, where is the President? Where is our moderate Joe Biden? Where is Kamala Harris, the expert on the border, as we have this disaster going on at the southern border, out of control, people going from the United States to Mexico, back Mexico to the United States?

Wake up, press corps, and find out how much money the gangs are making on this. Why are we processing over 200,000 people at the southern border for 2 months in a row? Things we haven't seen for over 20 years.

No wonder some of the press corps, the irresponsible press corps—and no wonder Joe Biden wants to focus on vaccine mandates. Because focusing on vaccine mandates takes our eyes off the border that is out of control.

It is up to Congress to step forward, have some more committee hearings on this, do something, bring some bills to the floor. I know there is going to be a CR coming through, there is going to be a bill to break the debt ceiling coming through.

I would ask the President, the Speaker, give us some more Border Patrol agents to deal with our empty border. That is the first thing all Americans should be concerned about. They should be asking their Congressmen, they should be asking their Senators, what is being done to prevent 200,000 people from showing up at the border? What is being done when over 200 miles of the Mexican border is left, to a de-

gree, unguarded? Are they at all concerned about the 90,000 people who died in the last year of illegal drug use, primarily fentanyl flowing across the southern border? What is being done about all the people coming from the other countries?

Remember, you did not see all these people under the bridge 2 or 3 months ago. Why? Again, it is not just a random thing. It is because of a change in the Temporary Protected Status extended by President Biden, which results in the huge mess that we have.

But that is not the only thing that hasn't been covered anywhere near enough. There is an issue that the press should be focusing on more with regard to the COVID situation. I know a lot of the focus is on the vaccine, but we have to realize that many people have gotten the vaccine over the last 6 months.

We also have a situation in which people have been working on cures for the disease. Right now, most days over 1,000—kind of averaging about 1,500—people die every day from COVID. So is there any cure for COVID that the CDC is letting sit on the table?

Over a year ago scientists in Israel announced hope for a generic drug called fenofibrate, or Tricor, which has been used safely to treat people for high cholesterol for years. Recently, these Israeli scientists have revealed that they took 15 people, all of which had severe COVID, all of which needed oxygen, and in 4 days, 4 to 6 days, 14 of the 15 were out of the hospital after they were given fenofibrate, which cost a grand total of \$1.50 a day. The other patient got out of the hospital within 2 weeks.

You would think this is good news for the CDC, particularly given the billions of dollars that we have given them. Unfortunately, they are not getting enough assistance to do further trials in this country. Think if this 15-patient outfit were typical of the population as a whole. 15 for 15 cured. And not only cured. A lot of people today with COVID, even when they are cured, have permanent or almost permanent side effects. But here the side effects are a fraction of what they were on people who didn't take fenofibrate.

So I beg the CDC or anybody in the administration who is listening, we brought this to their attention before, see what you can do to have the vast sum of money and the U.S. Government weigh in to see if we can have stronger trials with more people on the fenofibrate, and we can get ourselves in a position in which soon if someone does wind up going to the hospital, if someone does wind up needing oxygen, they are given the fenofibrate, and they can wind up like the 15 patients they have already tried this on, all of which are apparently doing very well and are even getting rid of the symptoms that people who have had COVID sometimes hang onto for months and months and months.

If we have anybody out there listening from the CDC, listening from the

NIH, I would ask them to familiarize themselves with the study. It is fenofibrate. It has been well covered in *The Jerusalem Post*.

Why, in a time when we have 1,200 to 1,500 Americans dying every day of COVID, is this not something that is being pushed? I strongly encourage our health establishment to familiarize themselves with what right now looks like a miracle drug.

My final comment is with regard to the pro-life issue. When you consider the hundreds of thousands of people who would have been born every day in this country but who have their lives cut short before they are born, you can see why this is another issue that our press corps should be talking about, our churches should be talking about.

Already there have been big changes of policy under the new administration. First of all, in the past, under the Mexico City policy, if money was going to an international organization, if that international organization was performing abortions, they could not have the money. We changed that, President Biden changed it, saying: You can't use that money directly for an abortion, but since money is fungible, your organization can take the good name of the United States and use it to proselytize, use it after switching money around to have the U.S. assist in performing abortions around the world.

The second thing they did is under Title X, money going out, again to nonprofit organizations, in the past if these organizations referred for abortion, they couldn't get the money. Change that policy, so the type of organizations who work towards legalizing or work towards normalizing abortion got more money.

They wouldn't get the money in the past because it was too much a part of their mission to perform abortions. But one more time, they are going to be getting money.

But now we have a new bill coming up, and I think all Americans have to stop and think what is happening when it has come to this in America.

This bill will legalize abortion nationwide almost or perhaps all the way to birth. Now, throughout most of our country's history, abortion was illegal. It is kind of amazing, abortion was illegal before they had ultrasounds, before people could see actually what was going on.

I had felt when I began to get involved in public life that when ultrasounds become available, the number of abortions would drop. But despite the ultrasounds, things continue on ahead, in part because powerful organizations continue to hold abortion as a way out of a pregnancy.

But it is truly shocking that I believe a majority of people in this Chamber are going to vote to say that we have abortions right up to birth and get rid of even minor laws that are postponing the abortions otherwise.

□ 2015

When I was in the State of Wisconsin, I authored a bill putting in a 24-hour waiting period for abortion. I talked to the women who were bullied by their boyfriends or cajoled by their parents into having abortions, and they felt it was very important that there be some sort of waiting period after you went to the office of the abortionist one time that you got a chance to stop, step back, and think.

I think there are a lot of other places in our society where doctors or other people put a waiting period out there knowing that it is a very important decision, and you are never going to be able to change your mind once you make that decision. But under the extreme bill that we are going to be voting on later this week, they are going to say, no, we can't have that. Once they get you in that clinic on day one they can perform that abortion right away, and we are not going to give you 24 hours or 40 hours or whatever it is around the country to stop and maybe change your mind.

That is the type of thing that is going to be passed in the U.S. House of Representatives.

It doesn't take many people to change their mind and say, you know, I may consider myself so-called pro-choice, but the idea of saying that it is legal to perform an abortion a few hours after you walk in the abortion clinic, I just can't go that far. And I hope some of my colleagues who think they are going to vote for the bill later this week change their mind.

I hope they change their mind on things like sex selective abortion. We know in other cultures, and I happen to think we have a better culture by a mile, but in other cultures it is apparently not unusual to do, see whether they are going to have a boy or girl and if it is not what you want, we are going to end the life of that child before it is born.

Some States have made that illegal. Well, some people in Congress apparently feel they know better. We are going get rid of that law, and we are going to cut that life short just because maybe let's say it is a girl, and we were hoping for a boy.

I can see why certain members of the press wouldn't want to talk about this, and I can see why certain members of the administration wouldn't talk about this. I don't know what I would do, how I would explain such a radical bill.

So, in any event, I will leave the public with those three things to think about. Think about over 200,000 people a month at the border. Think about the Border Patrol stuck processing people, not able to monitor the border. Think of all the drugs coming across. Think of the 5,000 and up that the people coming across are having to give these drug gangs in Mexico further strengthening their power.

I ask you to think about like they have covered in the *Jerusalem Post* what is going on with the fenofibrate

and the fact you can think how many lives we would save of the approximately 1,500 people a day that are still dying of COVID. And I want you to think about that bill being passed on Friday and whether it is right for the heavy hand of Congress to say not only can you have an abortion up to birth, but we are even going to get rid of laws like a waiting period law or get rid of laws like a sex selective law.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to address their remarks to the Chair and not to a perceived viewing audience.

RECOGNIZING THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF DON'T ASK, DON'T TELL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) for 30 minutes.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TAKANO. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on the subject of my Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. TAKANO. Madam Speaker, today's Special Order hour marks the 10-year anniversary of the enactment of the Don't Ask, Don't Tell Repeal Act of 2010. This legislation represented the end of an era, the close of a dark chapter in our military history in which LGBTQ members of the Armed Forces were forced to hide who they were under the threat of investigation and discharge. Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer servicemembers of that era paid a heavy cost to serve their country, one that required them to uphold an uncompromising oath of integrity while at the same time publicly denying a fundamental aspect of their lives. It is thanks to their resilience, their strength, and their activism that repeal was ever achieved, and we honor those veterans today.

I believe it is important to hear from the veterans themselves from those who served and survived Don't Ask, Don't Tell. It is my pleasure this evening to welcome a number of my colleagues to the floor to read the testimony of five individuals who served under Don't Ask, Don't Tell.

It is my distinct privilege to start with the testimony of Lindsay Church, a Navy veteran who served from 2008 to 2012. Lindsay is a third-generation sailor and the sixth in their family to serve in the military. They are a co-founder and executive director of the veteran serving organization Minority Veterans of America and have nearly a decade of experience in veterans advocacy. And this is Lindsay's story:

"In 2008, I joined the Navy where I would serve for 4 years before being medically retired. I served all but 3 months of my time under the military's discriminatory Don't Ask, Don't Tell policy. I could tell you a lot of stories that range from bullying and reprimand for my nonbinary appearance, failed relationships due to the fact that I had to hide them at every turn, and exploitation by other servicemembers threatening to tell my secret if I didn't continue to date them. Even as I spent months recovering from life-changing injuries as a result of my service, I was made to suffer alone because my relationships were legally prohibited.

"As I have unpacked my service as a veteran, I look back at the intense scars that Don't Ask, Don't Tell inflicted on my life. In conversations with other Don't Ask, Don't Tell survivors, I have come to realize that serving under this policy has left a generation of queer servicemembers with intense trauma and a fracture of our identities. For veterans like myself, we were often faced with a choice upon leaving the military and coming to the veteran community: Be a veteran or be queer because you can't be both here.

"It has taken me nearly a decade since leaving the service to find healing and engage in healthy relationships. I couldn't speak out against this policy when I was in uniform, so it is imperative for me today to remind this body that policies like Don't Ask, Don't Tell cause widespread trauma and harm to generations of servicemembers who fought for our country but were forced to remain voiceless. Moral injury will follow with each of us for the rest of our lives.

"My story of service was tarnished by Don't Ask, Don't Tell. Every day I carried a lie while attempting to live up to the Navy's core values of honor, courage, and commitment. I am deeply proud of the years of my life I gave to serving my country, and that will never change. The scars I carry as a result of that service will also never change. Though they may fade, they will never be forgotten."

So I would like to extend my deep thanks to Lindsay, both for their service and the courage to share their story.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. CICILLINE), chair of the Congressional Equality Caucus.

Mr. CICILLINE. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Madam Speaker, it is a great honor to be part of this Special Order hour, and I thank Chairman TAKANO, who is not only a leader in the Equality Caucus but also chair of the Veterans' Affairs Committee for organizing our Special Order hour.

I know we are joined by several other members of our caucus, including one of our new members, an extraordinary gentleman from New Hampshire, CHRIS PAPPAS, who we will hear from in just a moment.

As chair of the LGBTQ-Plus Equality Caucus. I am very proud to be here tonight to stand alongside my colleagues as we mark this very important anniversary.

Ten years ago, a historic wrong was corrected when Don't Ask, Don't Tell was repealed. I wish I could say it is hard to remember when members of the LGBTQ community had to push for their right to serve our country openly. But we continue to struggle for full equality in our military and in many other areas of our lives.

A few years ago, President Trump imposed a ban on transgender people serving their country in the military. Thankfully, President Biden reversed that move and just in the past days his administration has taken additional steps to ensure equal access to services for those unfairly discharged.

Thousands of members of the LGBTQ community have served and continue to serve in our Nation's military, and we are grateful for their service. We understand that military service is inherently stressful and dangerous, and those who serve are heroes for putting themselves in harm's way to protect us all.

Now imagine conducting that service knowing that your very identity must be kept hidden at the risk of being thrown out with a dishonorable discharge. And we know that LGBTQ servicemembers had more to fear than separation. They had to face discrimination and potentially violence within their ranks should their identity be known.

The problems facing LGBTQ servicemembers did not vanish immediately upon repeal of Don't Ask, Don't Tell. I am proud of my colleagues who continue to push to create a level playing field for those discharged under this discriminatory policy. I particularly want to acknowledge Congressman TAKANO and Congressman POCAN. But there is still more work to be done, and the LGBTQ-Plus Equality Caucus is committed to continuing this fight alongside those who have served.

Today, as Chairman TAKANO mentioned, my colleagues and I will read some firsthand accounts from people discharged under Don't Ask, Don't Tell so the American people can really understand the story of their lives.

My story is from John Hegwood, who served in the Army and identifies as a gay, bi-racial cisgender man.

He writes: "I joined the military knowing, at least intellectually, that I couldn't be my authentic self. However, it would take several years of introspection to realize what impact this would have on my life. I told myself it would be easy to navigate as a gay man since I grew up in the very rural and antigay western part of Texas. I thought this would be a proverbial 'walk in the park.'

"When I first heard that Don't Ask, Don't Tell would be repealed, I was incredulous and nearly in tears. It was almost unimaginable that this would

occur within my lifetime. My then-partner and I were both military and couldn't even acknowledge our relationship in the workplace. The darker side of this otherwise heartening news is that the coming months until it was fully repealed would feel like an even more hostile environment.

"With Don't Ask, Don't Tell as the status quo for over a decade, I had the privilege of mostly flying under the radar of most of my colleagues who deemed LGBTQ soldiers as a benign part of the fighting force. Now with the repeal of Don't Ask, Don't Tell at the forefront of the military's collective consciousness, it all but painted a target on my back as I became the focus of everyone's ire if they disagreed with the repeal that was looming on the horizon.

"I now carry with me a sense of resentment towards the military because of the harassment, hazing, bullying, and discrimination I encountered while serving from those that I was supposed to trust my life with. I had to choose between serving my country and my relationship.

"Now, we might have made some progress as a society. Last month I celebrated 10 wonderful years with that same man I couldn't even acknowledge in the workplace 10 years ago. He is now my husband, and the military that would have discharged him a decade ago now honors our marriage and was very accommodating in granting a compassionate reassignment of duty location when I was diagnosed with stage III non-Hodgkin's lymphoma.

"This doesn't mean that homophobia simply disappeared, or that everyone suddenly had no issues with us simply existing as we are. To this day it is not entirely safe for us to hold hands in public, and members of the LGBTQ community are still facing discrimination in our Armed Forces and in society as a whole."

Madam Speaker, those words powerfully written are really a call to action as we celebrate 10 years of the repeal of Don't Ask, Don't Tell to recognize we have much more work to do to ensure that all members of the LGBTQ community can live full lives free from discrimination of any kind.

Mr. TAKANO. Madam Speaker, I thank Representative CICILLINE for that testimony that he read on behalf of John Hegwood, former Army servicemember.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New Hampshire (Mr. PAPPAS) to share the story of Air Force veteran Landon Marchant.

Mr. PAPPAS. Madam Speaker, I thank the chairman for yielding and for his leadership on the Committee on Veterans' Affairs and for his longstanding commitment to fighting for those who have served all of us.

So today does mark the 10th anniversary of the end of Don't Ask, Don't Tell. It was a deeply flawed, deeply prejudiced policy of our government that prohibited LGBTQ individuals

from serving openly in the Armed Forces.

□ 2030

The policy told LGBTQ individuals that they were not welcome to serve their country, that their government viewed them as second-class citizens.

It also forced many who swore an oath to give everything for their country, up to and including their lives, to hide who they were and to live in secret or to face the loss of a job, a life's calling, financial security, health, and happiness.

Americans who were ready, willing, and eager to serve their country were forced to leave the armed services for good, many receiving less-than-honorable discharges. It is estimated that over 13,000 servicemembers were discharged in the 17 years that Don't Ask, Don't Tell was enforced.

A decade after its repeal, Don't Ask, Don't Tell still casts a long, dark, and disgraceful shadow and haunts those who were targeted. We have much more work to do to correct this tremendous injustice endured by those who served and were discharged during Don't Ask, Don't Tell.

That is why I was proud to introduce the Securing the Rights our Veterans Earned Act, or SERVE Act, to help correct these injustices and guarantee VA benefits for LGBTQ-plus veterans forced out of service for being themselves. This includes veterans who were discharged under Don't Ask, Don't Tell, those issued so-called blue discharges during World War II, as well as those forced out under the Trump's administration discriminatory policy on transgender servicemembers.

I want to highlight one story of a courageous veteran, Landon Marchant. Landon Marchant is a transgender veteran of the Air Force who enlisted to serve their country and for the promise of a better life. But after just 22 months, they were dishonorably discharged.

As Landon writes: "The impact of Don't Ask, Don't Tell did not end when I received my discharge paperwork, and it did not end when the ban was finally repealed. It has impacted my post-military life. I was discharged less than 2 months before reaching the 2-year minimum for full GI Bill eligibility, and I have had to fight for my disability benefits while having inconsistent employment."

So it took nearly 10 years after their discharge to be awarded the VA benefits that Landon had earned, and still, this fight continues.

Stories like Landon's are heart-breaking. I thank them for having the courage to stand up and to speak out about this personal experience.

Don't Ask, Don't Tell isn't just about a policy on paper. It is about living, breathing people, like Landon and thousands more who lived with the stigma, the trauma, and the adverse effects.

I applaud the Department of Veterans Affairs for announcing that it

will work to correct injustices like Landon's. And I urge my colleagues in this Chamber to support these efforts and others that will provide all LGBTQ-plus servicemembers and veterans with the full measure of equality, of care, and of respect that they have earned through their service.

Mr. TAKANO. Madam Speaker, I thank Representative PAPPAS for sharing the testimony of Landon Marchant.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MOULTON), a Congressman who himself is a Marine veteran, to share the story of Air Force veteran Hanna Tripp.

Mr. MOULTON. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California for yielding.

Hanna Tripp served in the Air Force from 2009 to 2013. Hanna is also a Team Moulton alum, where she did extraordinary work for veterans in Massachusetts' Sixth District. Today, as a senior policy adviser at Minority Veterans of America, she continues to advocate for veterans everywhere.

I am grateful to be here on this year's 10th anniversary of the repeal of Don't Ask, Don't Tell, and I am honored to share Hanna's story with you all.

This is her story, in her words: "I graduated flight school at the top of my class; flew 20 combat missions in Iraq; and later brought back the remains of our fallen from Afghanistan.

"Objectively, I was a good airman. However, nothing that I did or could do would supersede the fact that I was trans. In coming out, my service to this country would have been made irrelevant simply by this one aspect of who I was.

"So, in order to remain, I chose to bifurcate myself; to project a facade of the person the military expected me to be. The catch-22 was that while I heard members of my squadron talk about how 'the gays' would destroy our combat effectiveness, I was unable to demonstrate that it didn't. This is the most enduring aspect of Don't Ask, Don't Tell for me. It was not that people like me were banned. It is that we were denied the opportunity to show our worth.

"Being trans in the Air Force was to live two versions of a lie: the lie you showed to the world in denying this fundamental truth and the lie that you told to yourself in doing so.

"There was also a feeling of betraying the community. How can I expect change if I don't have the courage to be the change I want to see? Why would those who had negative perceptions of 'the gays' think any differently if I was too cowardly to show them?

"With absolutely no hubris, I can say that my service to this country was both valuable and needed. I enlisted in the middle of a war to serve in a career field that guaranteed I would be sent to the front lines. I recognize the contributions I made, but I can't say I am proud of my service, as I failed to stand up for the very values that I was fighting for.

"What is strange to me is that being trans is such a small part of who I am, but because of Don't Ask, Don't Tell, it has become a large part of how my service is perceived.

"I still feel the legacy of Don't Ask, Don't Tell even to this day. At the VA, I was denied emergency care for no other reason than I was trans. Even now, I remain cut off from most of the people I served with.

"When squadmates died from suicide, when Iraq fell to ISIS, and while I battled my own experiences from the war, I did so alone. To this day, people with no service in the military still freely challenge the veracity of trans service.

"For people such as myself, Don't Ask, Don't Tell meant that our accomplishments, our stories, and our service was hidden because we were forced to remain hidden."

That is powerful testimony from Hanna Tripp, an American hero.

Mr. TAKANO. Madam Chair, I express my gratitude to the gentleman from Massachusetts for sharing Hanna Tripp's story. She truly is and was a courageous member of our Armed Forces, and it was very moving testimony. I read it in advance and nearly teared up.

I thank the Member for being here today to share with the rest of the country who Hanna is. I thank all the Members for sharing the stories of our LGBTQ members.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Virginia (Ms. SPANBERGER), my colleague, to share the story of Army veteran Stephanie Merlo.

Ms. SPANBERGER. Madam Speaker, I thank the chairman for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember and celebrate the 10-year anniversary of the repeal of Don't Ask, Don't Tell.

The repeal of this policy allowed thousands of American servicemembers to live and serve without fear. Finally, brave Americans are able to defend their country—our country—without worrying about both the stigma and the punishment that they could face because of whom they loved.

This decision, the repeal of Don't Ask, Don't Tell, impacted many of my constituents in Virginia's Seventh District, including Stephanie Merlo, an Army veteran. With her permission, I am honored to share her story tonight on the floor of the House of Representatives.

Stephanie begins by explaining that: "A year after 9/11 happened, I enlisted as an Active Duty servicemember in the Army. My mom cried; my brother was proud; and I was honestly excited and scared both at the same time.

"Was I scared of deploying? Sure, a little. Was I afraid of failing? Of course.

"But my overall fear, that which consumed me beyond the point of depression, was the fear of being 'ousted' and discharged for being a lesbian. In February of 2004, that fear showed its

face, and I was backed into a corner with deciding how I wanted to proceed with my military career.”

How many servicemembers had this fear? How many brave soldiers served honorably but with a secret, a secret that they knew could end their career in the military, their career of service to our Nation?

And Stephanie had two secrets: her sexuality, a secret she kept to protect her military career, and a secret regarding the sexual assault she suffered while in the Army. You see, reporting it could also mean revealing the secret of her sexuality.

Stephanie couldn't seek justice as a victim because seeking justice would mean she could potentially bring an end to her career. She could potentially be identified as gay in the military.

Stephanie was faced with this horrible choice, this horrible reality, and all the while, her intention had been to bravely serve our Nation, as so many brave LGBTQ Americans have.

I am proud to share this story because Stephanie reflects on the fact that had Don't Ask, Don't Tell not been in place, perhaps a bit of her story would have gone differently. She says that she never regretted her decision to join the Army, but she still lives with the regret of not allowing herself to live her truth.

Stephanie's story is emblematic of the struggles, the hardships, and, most importantly, the triumphs of so many who have served in our Air Force before the repeal of Don't Ask, Don't Tell.

During that time, members of our military showed tremendous courage, selflessness. They served our country with the utmost honor and valor, and they put their service to country above even living their own truth. But our military is stronger because of the repeal.

Our military has always been strong because of brave servicemembers, brave soldiers like Stephanie, and our Nation is better because it has been protected by people like Stephanie and so many of the stories we have heard today. Our Nation is better protected because of the protections afforded to those who put on the uniform.

Tonight, we have the opportunity to reflect on the importance of this decision on the 10th anniversary of the repeal of Don't Ask, Don't Tell. For thousands of servicemembers and veterans like Stephanie, this decision was long overdue.

May we always look to defend and support those who are willing to serve our country, sacrifice on behalf of our fellow Americans, and build a stronger Nation. I am grateful to every LGBTQ servicemember who has served, past or present. I thank them for their sacrifice to our country, and I am so grateful that as they serve today, they can do it celebrating their full selves.

Mr. TAKANO. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Virginia

for sharing the very moving story of Stephanie Merlo, for expressing her humanity on the floor today. The Representative exemplifies, to me, the best of my Caucus, the Democratic Caucus, and the values we stand up for, which is to include more people in “we the people.”

Madam Speaker, this concludes our Special Order hour. I thank my colleagues for their participation and each of the veterans who shared their stories and, in particular, every veteran and servicemember who gave their service to our country in the face of overwhelming prejudice.

We recognize today as the 10th anniversary of an important first step toward making the Armed Forces more inclusive and accepting, a commitment that I and all my colleagues here today will continue to carry forward.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to include in the RECORD a statement of a constituent of mine, Staff Sergeant Ashley Carothers, who is a veteran of the United States Air Force. Staff Sergeant Carothers served from 2005 to 2013, and thus was subject to the “Don't Ask, Don't Tell” policy for most of her service. I share her story as we commemorate 10 years since the repeal of “Don't Ask, Don't Tell.” Staff Sergeant Carothers was honorably discharged in 2013 and lives in the District of Columbia.

This is what she has said about her experience:

During my Air Force career, I lived a double life. I was an actress portraying a straight Airman on a stage called life and behind closed doors a very broken human being that desperately just wanted to be herself. I was a lesbian in hiding. I was the Airman that did it all, scored as high as they could on tests, worked to know the job better than the rest and volunteer for everything that I could in hopes that my busy life would never uncover the truth. Behind the curtain I dated but relationships couldn't really completely build because there was always a sense of getting caught especially in a mil to mil relationship. Supervisors constantly questioning you and trying to set you up with the new guy in the shop and always prying into why you constantly denied any male advances. The worst part was the feeling of always being alone while fending off the wolves (male airmen) and dodging sexual harassment and assault as a woman just trying to serve her country. I guess it made me stronger in a weird messed up way as I was able to provide support to others later in my career, support I never had.

While serving in Germany I had the privilege to be one of the chapter leaders for the then-underground organization known as OutServe. Prior to the repeal of Don't Ask, Don't Tell we had a large number of LGBT service members all over the European theater that relied on each other for support and a sense of community. During this timeframe, multiple individuals struggled further with their military leadership as those opposed to the repeal expressed their views verbally, leaving many with anxiety about the future. There were many late-night phone calls trying to be the voice of reason in moments of doubt and desperation when options to turn to mental health professionals were nonexistent for fear of discharge. Not being able to fight for them and speak freely and openly to commands for support damaged in-

dividuals beyond repair. If anyone went to speak to a mental health professional and disclosed the fact that they identified as gay, lesbian or bisexual, they would be on the chopping block as they were serving under Don't Ask, Don't Tell. On top of that, many served in career fields that they had to report any visit to a mental health professional, further limiting these individuals who desperately needed assistance. These individuals had no one to turn to and suffered in silence. Most even after the repeal couldn't come out as lesbian, gay or bisexual for fear of mistreatment from their superiors. Some suffered greatly by coming out to their commands, as they had to work twice as hard to prove themselves and were often overlooked for promotion and awards.

Balancing my own life struggles and the struggles of those that looked to me for support was a pretty demanding time in my career. My career and health did suffer, but I often think about what life would have been like if I hadn't been able to give so much or if the military would have just let humans be humans by being their true authentic selves in the first place. The constant jokes, ridicule and mistreatment from superiors hasn't gone away. On this anniversary, I hope that those in charge will finally take the right steps and change the culture.

Madam Speaker, I appreciate the opportunity to share Staff Sergeant Carothers' story and to remember the thousands like her who were harmed by Don't Ask, Don't Tell.

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 11(b) of House Resolution 188, the House stands adjourned until 9 a.m. tomorrow for morning-hour debate and 11 a.m. for legislative business.

Thereupon (at 8 o'clock and 44 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, September 21, 2021, at 9 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

BUDGETARY EFFECTS OF PAYGO LEGISLATION

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, that H.R. 5293, the Department of Veterans Affairs Expiring Authorities Act of 2021, as amended, would have no significant effect on the deficit, and therefore, the budgetary effects of such bill are estimated as zero.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC-2163. A letter from the Deputy Chief, Auctions Division, Office of Economics and Analytics, Federal Communication Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Auction of Flexible-use Service Licenses in the 3.45-3.55 GHz Band for Next-generation wireless services; Notice and Filing Requirements, Minimum Opening, Bids, Upfront Payments, and Other Procedures for Auction 110; Bidding in Auction 110 Scheduled to Begin October 5, 2021 [AU Docket No.:

21-62] received September 17, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-2164. A letter from the President of the United States, transmitting an Executive Order imposing sanctions on certain persons with respect to the humanitarian and human rights crisis in Ethiopia, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1703(b); Public Law 95-223, Sec. 204(b); (91 Stat. 1627) and 50 U.S.C. 1641(b); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 401(b); (90 Stat. 1257) (H. Doc. No. 117—61); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed.

EC-2165. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31386; Amdt. No.: 3971] received September 10, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2166. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airspace Designations; Incorporation by Reference [Docket No.: FAA-2021-0648; Amendment No.: 71-53] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received September 10, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2167. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class D and Class E Airspace and Revocation of Class E Airspace; Columbus, OH [Docket No.: FAA-2021-0385; Airspace Docket No.: 21-AGL-21] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received September 10, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2168. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class E Airspace; Hondo, TX [Docket No.: FAA-2021-0386; Airspace Docket No.: 21-ASW-8] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received September 10, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2169. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class E Airspace; Massena, NY [Docket No.: FAA-2021-0355; Airspace Docket No.: 21-AEA-7] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received September 10, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2170. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Modification of Class E Airspace; Gulkana, AK [Docket No.: FAA-2021-0275; Airspace Docket No.: 20-AAL-39] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received September 10, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2171. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Modification of Class D and Class E Airspace, and Removal of Class E Airspace; Kodiak, AK [Docket No.: FAA-2021-0226; Airspace Docket No.: 20-AAL-2] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received September 10, 2021,

pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2172. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class E Airspace; Eveleth, MN [Docket No.: FAA-2021-0417; Airspace Docket No.: 21-AGL-23] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received September 10, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2173. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class D and Class E Airspace, Revocation of Class E Airspace and Establishment of Class E Airspace; Carbondale and Marion, IL [Docket No.: FAA-2021-0387; Airspace Docket No.: 21-AGL-24] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received September 10, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2174. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class E Airspace; Muscle Shoals, AL [Docket No.: FAA-2021-0075; Airspace Docket No.: 21-ASO-2] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received September 10, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2175. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Revocation of Class E Airspace; Mineola, TX [Docket No.: FAA-2021-0002; Airspace Docket No.: 21-ASW-3] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received September 10, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2176. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Proposed Establishment of Restricted Area R-5306F; Cherry Point, NC [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0111; Airspace Docket No.: 19-ASO-23] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received September 10, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2177. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Area Navigation (RNAV) Route Q-34; Northeastern United States [Docket No.: FAA-2020-1155; Airspace Docket No.: 20-ASO-28] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received September 10, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia: Committee on Agriculture. H.R. 267. A bill to extend the wildfire and hurricane indemnity program to cover certain crop losses in calendar year 2020, and for other purposes; with an amend-

ment (Rept. 117-124). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. MRVAN:

H.R. 5293. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend and modify certain authorities and requirements relating to the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas (for himself, Mr. BABIN, Mr. SESSIONS, and Mr. ELLZEY):

H.R. 5294. A bill to amend section 235(b)(2)(C) of the Immigration and Nationality Act to require the implementation of the Migrant Protection Protocols; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. BROWNLEY (for herself, Mr. SAN NICOLAS, Mr. KEATING, Mr. KAHELE, Mr. CASE, Ms. SPEIER, and Ms. NORTON):

H.R. 5295. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to maintain demographic information regarding veterans and publish such information on a website of the Department of Veterans Affairs; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. CRIST (for himself and Ms. BONAMICI):

H.R. 5296. A bill to reduce the health risks of heat by establishing the National Integrated Heat Health Information System Program within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the National Integrated Heat Health Information System Interagency Committee to improve extreme heat preparedness, planning, and response, requiring a study, and establishing financial assistance programs to address heat effects, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. LAWSON of Florida (for himself, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mrs. HAYES, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. CARSON, Mr. WALTZ, Ms. SALAZAR, Mr. CRIST, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, Mr. COSTA, Mr. GIMENEZ, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mrs. CAMMACK, Mr. GAETZ, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. MAST, Mr. BAIRD, Miss GONZALEZ-COLON, Ms. HERRELL, Mr. DUNN, Mr. STEUBE, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. DONALDS, and Mrs. RODGERS of Washington):

H.R. 5297. A bill to designate the POW/MIA Memorial and Museum in Jacksonville, Florida, as the National POW/MIA Memorial and Museum, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. NADLER (for himself, Mr. ROUZER, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. ZELDIN, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. MACE, Mr. RUIZ, and Mr. GARBARINO):

H.R. 5298. A bill to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to provide assistance for common interest communities, condominiums, and housing cooperatives damaged by a major disaster, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. NEGUSE:

H.R. 5299. A bill to amend title 37, United States Code, to authorize travel and transportation allowances for family members to attend the funeral and memorial services of members of the uniformed services; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. POCAN (for himself, Mrs.

BEATTY, Mr. BEYER, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. CARSON, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. COSTA, Mr. COURTNEY, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Ms. DEGETTE, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. EVANS, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Mr. GARCIA of Illinois, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. KAHLE, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. KILMER, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. LYNCH, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. MENG, Mr. JONES, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. MOULTON, Ms. NEWMAN, Ms. NORTON, Ms. OMAR, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. PAPPAS, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. PETERS, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. RUSH, Mr. RYAN, Ms. SANCHEZ, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. SIRE, Ms. SLOTKIN, Mr. SOTO, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. TITUS, Mr. TONKO, Mr. VEASEY, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, and Mr. WELCH):

H.R. 5300. A bill to direct the Secretary of Defense to establish a tiger team to perform outreach regarding the process by which a member of the Armed Forces, discharged on the basis of sexual orientation, may apply for review of the characterization of such discharge; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. TORRES of New York (for himself and Mr. MEIJER):

H.R. 5301. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide technical assistance to recipients of grants for supportive services for very low-income families in permanent housing and comprehensive service programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. WILSON of South Carolina (for himself, Mr. SCHNEIDER, and Mrs. MURPHY of Florida):

H.R. 5302. A bill to amend the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 establish a United States-Israel Operations-Technology Working Group and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. ZELDIN (for himself, Mr. TRONE, and Mr. VAN DREW):

H.R. 5303. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to designate September 11 Day

of Remembrance as a legal public holiday; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Ms. VELAZQUEZ (for herself, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. NADLER, Mr. TORRES of New York, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. SOTO, Mr. SIRE, and Mr. GRIJALVA):

H. Con. Res. 51. Concurrent resolution marking the four-year anniversary of the devastation of Puerto Rico and the United States Virgin Islands by Hurricane Maria; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana:

H. Res. 658. A resolution electing a Member to a certain standing committee of the House of Representatives; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. BASS (for herself, Mr. BACON, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mrs. LAWRENCE, and Mr. MULLIN):

H. Res. 659. A resolution expressing support for the designation of September 2021 as "National Kinship Care Month"; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. CURTIS (for himself, Mr. WELCH, and Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio):

H. Res. 660. A resolution supporting the designation of the week of September 19 through September 25, 2021, as "Telehealth Awareness Week"; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Ms. JOHNSON of Texas:

H. Res. 661. A resolution expressing support for designation of the week of September 19, 2021, through September 25, 2021, as "Balance Awareness Week"; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. JOHNSON of Texas (for herself and Mr. CARSON):

H. Res. 662. A resolution honoring the victims resulting from hate crimes, Islamophobia and anti-immigrant sentiment, in the aftermath of September 11, 2001, where individuals were targeted by violence and hatred because they were Muslim or perceived to be Muslim; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. STEEL (for herself, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Ms. TENNEY, and Mr. BUDD):

H. Res. 663. A resolution amending the Rules of the House of Representatives to require that a Member, Delegate, Resident Commissioner, officer, or employee of the House who accepts an offer of free attendance with respect to a charity event to notify the Committee on Ethics if the value of such free attendance exceeds \$1,000, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules.

By Mr. SUOZZI (for himself, Mr. COSTA, Ms. TITUS, Mr. JACOBS of New York, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, and Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY):

H. Res. 664. A resolution commemorating the anniversary of the invasion of Poland and recognizing the importance of the United States alliance with the Republic of Poland; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. TAKANO (for himself, Mr. PAPPAS, and Mr. POCAN):

H. Res. 665. A resolution commemorating the 10th anniversary of the repeal of the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Don't Pursue" policy; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. WILSON of Florida (for herself, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. CARSON, Ms. NEWMAN, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. BOST, Mr. COHEN, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. GIMENEZ, and Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia):

H. Res. 666. A resolution expressing support for the designation of the week of September 20 through September 26, 2021, as "Rail Safety Week" in the United States, and supporting the goals and ideals of Rail Safety Week to reduce rail-related accidents, fatalities, and injuries; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. MRVAN:

H.R. 5293.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 (Necessary and Proper Clause)

By Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas:

H.R. 5294.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

By Ms. BROWNLEY:

H.R. 5295.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution

By Mr. CRIST:

H.R. 5296.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. LAWSON of Florida:

H.R. 5297.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

"Article 1, Section 8: To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof"

By Mr. NADLER:

H.R. 5298.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, section 8, clauses 1, 17, and 18.

By Mr. NEGUSE:

H.R. 5299.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. POCAN:

H.R. 5300.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.

By Mr. TORRES of New York:

H.R. 5301.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8.

By Mr. WILSON of South Carolina:

H.R. 5302.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. ZELDIN:

H.R. 5303.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 82: Ms. SCHRIER.
 H.R. 217: Mrs. AXNE and Mr. CRENSHAW.
 H.R. 224: Ms. VAN DUYN.
 H.R. 263: Mr. NEHLS.
 H.R. 310: Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas, Mr. SHERMAN, and Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
 H.R. 421: Mrs. TRAHAN.
 H.R. 431: Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. STEUBE, Ms. TITUS, and Mr. CASE.
 H.R. 432: Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. O'HALLERAN, and Mr. GALLEGGO.
 H.R. 471: Mr. DAVIDSON and Mr. GARCIA of California.
 H.R. 481: Mr. EMMER and Ms. STEVENS.
 H.R. 508: Mr. CASTEN.
 H.R. 564: Mr. KAHELE.
 H.R. 605: Mr. BURCHETT.
 H.R. 612: Mr. HORSFORD.
 H.R. 818: Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania and Mr. FULCHER.
 H.R. 848: Mr. HUFFMAN and Mr. CLEAVER.
 H.R. 851: Ms. WILD.
 H.R. 911: Mr. COHEN.
 H.R. 955: Mr. KAHELE and Mr. JONES.
 H.R. 1007: Mr. SUOZZI.
 H.R. 1057: Mr. RESCIENTHALER, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. TAKANO, Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN, Mr. KAHELE, Mr. LYNCH, and Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY.
 H.R. 1113: Mr. CASTEN.
 H.R. 1133: Mr. PANETTA.
 H.R. 1212: Mr. YARMUTH.
 H.R. 1235: Mr. HARDER of California.
 H.R. 1258: Mr. CASE.
 H.R. 1282: Mrs. FISCHBACH.
 H.R. 1283: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.
 H.R. 1297: Ms. SCHRIER and Mr. STANTON.
 H.R. 1304: Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. LUCAS, Ms. WEXTON, and Mr. FLEISCHMANN.
 H.R. 1334: Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York.
 H.R. 1344: Ms. MANNING.
 H.R. 1348: Mr. CRIST, Mr. MALINOWSKI, Mr. RUIZ, Mr. O'HALLERAN, Mr. BERA, and Mr. COLE.
 H.R. 1378: Mr. AGUILAR and Mr. LYNCH.
 H.R. 1442: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. DOGETT, Mr. MOULTON, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, and Mr. BERA.
 H.R. 1476: Mr. OBERNOLTE.
 H.R. 1518: Mr. MOORE of Utah.
 H.R. 1550: Ms. SCANLON.
 H.R. 1587: Mr. BURCHETT and Mr. COMER.
 H.R. 1596: Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York.
 H.R. 1656: Mr. VALADAO and Mr. MAST.
 H.R. 1667: Mr. SESSIONS, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. QUIGLEY, and Mr. SOTO.
 H.R. 1677: Mr. CAWTHORN and Mr. NEGUSE.
 H.R. 1693: Ms. NORTON and Mr. ESPAILLAT.
 H.R. 1712: Mr. GOOD of Virginia.
 H.R. 1735: Mr. CRAWFORD and Ms. KAPTUR.
 H.R. 1745: Mr. BIGGS and Mr. RUTHERFORD.
 H.R. 1803: Mr. MOULTON, Mr. DESAULNIER, and Mr. HARDER of California.
 H.R. 1861: Mr. BANKS.
 H.R. 1884: Ms. MANNING.
 H.R. 1948: Mr. AGUILAR, Mr. HORSFORD, Mr. JEFFRIES, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. NEGUSE, Ms. ROSS, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, and Mrs. TORRES of California.
 H.R. 1974: Ms. CHU.
 H.R. 1983: Ms. BASS.
 H.R. 1990: Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. PHILLIPS, Mr. WENSTRUP, and Mr. MULLIN.
 H.R. 1997: Mr. STAUBER and Mrs. AXNE.
 H.R. 2076: Mr. CAWTHORN and Mr. BOST.
 H.R. 2116: Mr. TRONE, Mr. CICILLINE, and Mr. SCHRADER.
 H.R. 2119: Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. SWALWELL, Mr. DANNY K.

DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Ms. JACKSON LEE, and Mr. MCGOVERN.
 H.R. 2120: Mr. CARSON.
 H.R. 2168: Ms. ROSS, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, and Mr. STANTON.
 H.R. 2209: Mr. MANN.
 H.R. 2238: Mr. CARSON and Mr. SCHNEIDER.
 H.R. 2249: Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, and Mr. MEIJER.
 H.R. 2269: Mr. GARBARINO and Ms. SALAZAR.
 H.R. 2328: Ms. WATERS.
 H.R. 2339: Mr. KAHELE.
 H.R. 2424: Mr. O'HALLERAN.
 H.R. 2480: Mr. ESPAILLAT.
 H.R. 2499: Ms. SÁNCHEZ.
 H.R. 2503: Mr. TONKO.
 H.R. 2549: Ms. CHU.
 H.R. 2575: Mr. BACON.
 H.R. 2644: Ms. CLARKE of New York.
 H.R. 2654: Ms. TITUS, Mr. KAHELE, and Mr. BROOKS.
 H.R. 2664: Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, Mr. LOWENTHAL, and Ms. JAYAPAL.
 H.R. 2670: Mr. SHERMAN and Ms. TLAIB.
 H.R. 2730: Mr. LIEU.
 H.R. 2735: Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi and Mr. ESPAILLAT.
 H.R. 2773: Ms. MANNING.
 H.R. 2803: Mr. CARSON.
 H.R. 2817: Mr. SARBANES.
 H.R. 2821: Mr. PERLMUTTER.
 H.R. 2886: Ms. STANSBURY.
 H.R. 2896: Mr. CASE.
 H.R. 2903: Mrs. BUSTOS, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Mr. BERA.
 H.R. 2918: Ms. SCHRIER.
 H.R. 2920: Mr. COSTA and Ms. TITUS.
 H.R. 2954: Mr. MANN, Mr. CASE, Mrs. HINSON, Mr. MEUSER, and Mr. VALADAO.
 H.R. 2972: Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. DEFazio, and Mr. WALBERG.
 H.R. 2974: Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. ESPAILLAT, and Mr. WITTMAN.
 H.R. 2986: Mr. LOWENTHAL.
 H.R. 3044: Mrs. AXNE.
 H.R. 3086: Mr. KILMER.
 H.R. 3088: Mr. CRIST.
 H.R. 3100: Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mrs. TRAHAN, Ms. SCANLON, and Mr. SMITH of Washington.
 H.R. 3134: Mr. OBERNOLTE.
 H.R. 3135: Mr. LAMB.
 H.R. 3203: Mr. MANN.
 H.R. 3207: Mr. RICE of South Carolina.
 H.R. 3289: Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ.
 H.R. 3294: Mr. ESPAILLAT and Ms. JAYAPAL.
 H.R. 3299: Ms. SCANLON.
 H.R. 3321: Ms. LEE of California, Mrs. DEMINGS, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, and Mr. QUIGLEY.
 H.R. 3342: Mr. BOST.
 H.R. 3360: Mr. GOSAR.
 H.R. 3362: Mr. SMITH of Washington.
 H.R. 3402: Mr. LAWSON of Florida and Ms. NEWMAN.
 H.R. 3445: Mr. HIGGINS of New York.
 H.R. 3446: Mr. GRIJALVA and Mr. DESAULNIER.
 H.R. 3472: Mr. CARSON.
 H.R. 3500: Mr. DESJARLAIS.
 H.R. 3512: Ms. WILD and Mrs. AXNE.
 H.R. 3517: Mr. ALLRED.
 H.R. 3529: Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi.
 H.R. 3531: Mr. BLUMENAUER.
 H.R. 3532: Mrs. KIRKPATRICK.
 H.R. 3580: Mr. BOWMAN and Mr. MORELLE.
 H.R. 3646: Mrs. AXNE and Mrs. DEMINGS.
 H.R. 3650: Mr. YARMUTH and Mr. CARBAJAL.
 H.R. 3702: Ms. MACE.
 H.R. 3730: Ms. CHU.
 H.R. 3753: Mrs. AXNE and Mr. NEGUSE.
 H.R. 3759: Mr. EVANS, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. SOTO, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Ms. NORTON, Mr. COMER, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. BACON, and Mrs. DEMINGS.
 H.R. 3780: Mr. LANGEVIN.
 H.R. 3807: Mr. HORSFORD.
 H.R. 3824: Mr. SAN NICOLAS, Mr. CONNOLLY, and Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.

H.R. 3884: Ms. ESHOO, Ms. JACOBS of California, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, and Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York.
 H.R. 3938: Mr. BROWN.
 H.R. 3940: Mr. DEFazio, Ms. TITUS, Mr. COHEN, and Mr. POCAN.
 H.R. 3962: Mr. HARDER of California.
 H.R. 3967: Mr. NEGUSE and Ms. LOFGREN.
 H.R. 3992: Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, Mr. COURTNEY, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mrs. MCBATH, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, and Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.
 H.R. 3997: Mr. SOTO and Ms. SCANLON.
 H.R. 4010: Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania.
 H.R. 4021: Mrs. RODGERS of Washington and Mr. WITTMAN.
 H.R. 4058: Mr. O'HALLERAN.
 H.R. 4075: Mr. HIGGINS of New York.
 H.R. 4077: Mr. SABLAN.
 H.R. 4118: Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. KAHELE, and Mr. COSTA.
 H.R. 4131: Ms. BUSH and Mr. PERLMUTTER.
 H.R. 4146: Ms. SPANBERGER.
 H.R. 4150: Ms. KUSTER.
 H.R. 4164: Ms. KUSTER.
 H.R. 4193: Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. COOPER, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. BURGESS, and Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina.
 H.R. 4217: Mr. MULLIN.
 H.R. 4271: Ms. SCANLON.
 H.R. 4291: Mr. COHEN, Mr. CÁRDENAS, and Mr. BLUMENAUER.
 H.R. 4305: Mr. TONKO.
 H.R. 4308: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.
 H.R. 4319: Ms. WILD.
 H.R. 4323: Mr. DESAULNIER and Mr. TRONE.
 H.R. 4328: Mr. ELLZEY.
 H.R. 4347: Mrs. HINSON.
 H.R. 4382: Mr. LIEU.
 H.R. 4410: Mr. LATURNER.
 H.R. 4421: Mr. TORRES of New York, Ms. CLARKE of New York, and Mr. ESPAILLAT.
 H.R. 4429: Mr. NORMAN.
 H.R. 4443: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY and Ms. NEWMAN.
 H.R. 4558: Ms. WILD.
 H.R. 4576: Ms. CHU, Mr. AGUILAR, and Ms. PINGREE.
 H.R. 4587: Mr. MULLIN.
 H.R. 4674: Mr. WALTZ and Mr. HUDSON.
 H.R. 4675: Ms. BONAMICI.
 H.R. 4687: Ms. SCANLON.
 H.R. 4700: Mr. HARDER of California.
 H.R. 4735: Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia.
 H.R. 4738: Mr. LUCAS.
 H.R. 4810: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
 H.R. 4816: Ms. MENG and Ms. BARRAGÁN.
 H.R. 4829: Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER and Mr. NEWHOUSE.
 H.R. 4833: Mr. KAHELE.
 H.R. 4845: Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York.
 H.R. 4881: Mr. STANTON.
 H.R. 4903: Mr. CARSON.
 H.R. 4958: Ms. MALLIOTAKIS and Mr. GAETZ.
 H.R. 4969: Mr. LARSON of Connecticut.
 H.R. 4987: Mr. CASE.
 H.R. 4991: Ms. DELAURO.
 H.R. 5019: Mr. WELCH and Mr. KAHELE.
 H.R. 5063: Mr. KAHELE.
 H.R. 5073: Mr. RYAN, Mr. COSTA, Ms. STRICKLAND, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mr. KEATING, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. CONNOLLY, and Mr. ALLRED.
 H.R. 5131: Mr. SAN NICOLAS and Mrs. NAPOLITANO.
 H.R. 5142: Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. ROSS, Mrs. BEATTY, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. KIND, Mr. LAMB, Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. POCAN, and Mr. PETERS.
 H.R. 5168: Mr. PANETTA, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. KAHELE, Mrs. MURPHY of Florida, Mr. CLEAVER, Ms.

OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. McEACHIN, Mr. MORELLE, Ms. OMAR, Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, Mr. COHEN, Mr. SWALWELL, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. KILMER, Ms. DEAN, and Mr. KIM of New Jersey.

H.R. 5169: Mr. LARSON of Connecticut.

H.R. 5170: Mr. TORRES of New York, Mr. DEFazio, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, and Mr. GRIJALVA.

H.R. 5177: Mr. HARDER of California.

H.R. 5207: Mr. WALTZ and Mr. RUTHERFORD.

H.R. 5221: Mr. JOYCE of Ohio and Mr. GALLEG0.

H.R. 5244: Ms. DELBENE, Mr. KELLER, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Ms. DEAN, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Ms. BASS, Ms. BROWNLEY, and Mr. COHEN.

H.R. 5253: Mr. KHANNA and Mr. MCGOVERN.

H.R. 5260: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.

H.R. 5267: Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. SEWELL, Ms. WILSON of Florida, and Mr. MFUME.

H.R. 5271: Mr. DESJARLAIS.

H.R. 5285: Mr. TAKANO and Mr. POCAN.

H.J. Res. 6: Mr. FERGUSON.

H. Con. Res. 49: Mr. BABIN.

H. Res. 47: Mr. STANTON.

H. Res. 240: Ms. KUSTER and Mr. HIGGINS of New York.

H. Res. 271: Ms. PINGREE, Mrs. CAMMACK, and Mr. PANETTA.

H. Res. 349: Mr. LEVIN of California.

H. Res. 369: Mr. TRONE.

H. Res. 404: Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. DELGADO, Mrs. TRAHAN, Mr. RYAN, and Mr. KUSTOFF.

H. Res. 471: Mr. HIMES.

H. Res. 565: Mr. CARBAJAL.

H. Res. 566: Ms. NORTON, Mr. REED, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. DELGADO, and Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York.

H. Res. 568: Mr. SCHIFF, Ms. NORTON, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. MENG, and Ms. NEWMAN.

H. Res. 575: Mr. VARGAS.

H. Res. 587: Mr. PERRY.

H. Res. 620: Mr. SMITH of Nebraska.

H. Res. 634: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas, and Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia.

H. Res. 641: Mr. THOMPSON of California.

H. Res. 644: Mr. STEUBE.

H. Res. 655: Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. STEUBE, and Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER.



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Vol. 167

WASHINGTON, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2021

No. 162

Senate

The Senate met at 3 p.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal God, who comes to us with light and life, turn the illumination of Your love upon our lawmakers, providing them with strength for today and bright hopes for tomorrow. May they feel Your presence moment by moment and comprehend that You can still make the crooked places straight.

Lord, remind them that they are stewards of Your blessings and accountable to You for their actions. Help them also to remember that You require faithfulness from all who serve Your Kingdom.

We pray in Your wonderful Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Hawaii.

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. HIRONO). Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

BUSINESS BEFORE THE SENATE

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, the Senate begins this week with a lot to accomplish in very little time. This week, and in weeks to come, Senate Democrats will continue our work to pass historic legislation to strengthen our economy and renew America's middle class for the 21st century.

Very soon, we will also take up a continuing resolution to avoid a need-less government shutdown and provide emergency funding necessary to settle Afghan refugees and those devastated by this summer's natural disasters.

We must also work on a bipartisan basis to extend the debt ceiling to preserve the very important and cherished full faith and credit of the United States.

The Senate will also consider recently introduced voting rights legislation and advancing President Biden's nominees to the judiciary and to his administration.

So the next few weeks will be critical weeks for the Senate. Members should be prepared for the possibility of working late nights and into the weekend.

On the nominations front, we will begin the week by confirming Ms. Veronica Rossman of Colorado to serve on the Tenth Circuit. Ms. Rossman has spent the majority of her career in public service, representing criminal defendants who cannot afford counsel oftentimes. She would be one of very few Federal public defenders on the entire Federal bench, bringing both personal and professional diversity to our courts at a time when we need to strengthen the public's trust in the Federal judiciary.

In addition to Ms. Rossman's confirmation, Senate Democrats are working to confirm many other nominees for a critical number of Agencies, including the Departments of Defense, State, and Treasury.

Now, unfortunately, some of our Republican colleagues have chosen to play cheap political games and stone-

wall the confirmation of these uncontroversial but essential nominees.

Let's be clear. By blocking these perfectly qualified public servants, my Republican colleagues are deliberately hindering our government's ability to protect our country and to work with our allies abroad.

These nominees should be the work of a few hours at most. Many of them have been reported out of committee with bipartisan support and, under normal circumstances, would be confirmed without any trouble.

And so while my Republican colleagues won't be able to stop these nominees from reaching final confirmation, their stonewalling will drag out what would normally be a routine and easy process. The few obstructionists on the Republican side who are leading this charge are deliberately derailing the confirmation of these important nominees in an all-out effort to gain the support of hard-right elements of their party, and in the process—the nasty political process they are engaged in—they are making Americans less safe at home and abroad. They should stop immediately, and the Republican leader should admonish them.

Now, on the legislative front, Democrats continue to make good progress toward enacting our Build Back Better agenda into law. Last week, the House completed their markups—the House committees completed their markups on the legislative text that underpins Democrats' reconciliation bill.

Here in the Senate, our caucus held a long and productive discussion last week about the substance of our bill. We will continue these discussions as the week progresses.

Now, no one expected that it would be easy to pass legislation to transform the American economy and provide the biggest tax cut for the middle class in a generation. But no one in this body was elected to do only the easy stuff. We have a lot of hard work to do, and

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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we are going to keep at it until we get the job done.

Now, I just want to say something about the news we received last night about the Senate Parliamentarian.

Last night's ruling was extremely disappointing. It saddened me. It frustrated me. It angered me. But make no mistake. The fight continues.

Senate Democrats have prepared alternative proposals and will be holding additional meetings with the Senate Parliamentarian in the coming days.

I have been working closely with my colleagues in the Senate, including Judiciary Chairman DURBIN, Senators PADILLA, MENENDEZ, LUJÁN, and CORTEZ MASTO, and we will continue our fight to find the best option available to provide immigrants with the chance at one day obtaining lawful residence here in America.

The last year and a half have shown how vital our immigrants have been to keeping our economy going during a time of crisis. So many risked their lives on the frontline of this pandemic but remain excluded from the very same benefits that have kept millions of others secure during these hard times.

We are short of workers from one end of America to the other. One of the reasons, the Trump administration dramatically cut back on immigrants in this country. We need them. We need them in our labor force. We need them to continue American vitality. We need them because they are part of the American Dream.

It is estimated in my city by some that one-third of the healthcare workers at the height of COVID who risked their lives for us were immigrants.

Having a strong law that helps our immigrants is vital. The American people understand that fixing our broken immigration system is a moral imperative and an economic imperative. Immigration reform has been one of the most important causes of my time in the Senate, and I will not stop fighting to achieve it.

Finally, on addressing the debt limit, on debt limit the Republicans are doing a dine-and-dash of historic proportions that hurts the American people and hurts our country. That hurts the American people and hurts our country.

In the immediate future, both parties will have to come together to allow the Federal Government to continue its most important responsibility: paying the bills and making good on our outstanding obligations.

A few minutes ago, I joined with Speaker PELOSI in announcing that the continuing resolution that we will take up to avoid a government shutdown will also include a suspension of the debt limit through December 2022, allowing us to meet our obligations and preserve the full faith and credit of these United States of America. Suspending the debt limit through December of 2022 provides an amount of time commensurate with the debt that was

incurred as a result of the \$908 billion COVID emergency relief bill last year. That was a bill that was passed when Donald Trump was President and Senator MCCONNELL was the majority leader of the Senate. It was passed under Republican leadership. That is the debt we are paying in this bill. The legislation that funded this \$908 billion in COVID relief was supported by more than 40 Republicans and signed into law by President Trump. So anyone who says this is Democratic debt is not talking fact; they are talking fiction.

Both sides—both sides—have a responsibility to pay for the debt that we have already incurred. It has always been done in a bipartisan way. Unfortunately, last week, Leader MCCONNELL announced that the Senate Republicans are inclined to deliberately turn their backs on their obligations.

When asked if Republicans would block an extension of the debt limit, Leader MCCONNELL, amazingly and cravenly, said that “Republicans are united in opposition to raising the debt ceiling.” Shame. This is the same Leader MCCONNELL who urged Democrats and Republicans to support raising the debt ceiling when Donald Trump was President and he was majority leader. He always comes up with some sophistry as to why it is different, but everyone knows it is not different. In fact, Democrats supported three times raising the debt ceiling when Trump was President, and if my recollection is right, at least one of those times was when the House, the Senate, and the Presidency were controlled by Republicans.

Should Republicans careen our country toward a default, our country could actually be plunged into recession—laying off millions, making it harder for people to pay for the food on the table and their mortgages and their rent. Shame, shame on the Republican leader.

As Secretary Yellen put it just days ago, failure to raise the debt limit would have “absolutely catastrophic economic consequences . . . [and] would precipitate a financial crisis.” A default would risk sending interest rates sky high across the board, hurting consumers, small businesses, and our country's ability to borrow in the future. Our economy, still fresh off the trauma of the COVID crisis, could slip back into recession and undo everything we have done to help struggling Americans pick themselves back up.

Now, many on the other side, including the Republican leader himself, are trying to justify their reckless position with deeply misleading talking points. They have argued over and over again that they refuse to work with Democrats because they oppose our forthcoming legislative agenda. Of course, what they don't say is that these two issues have nothing to do with each other. The forthcoming legislative agenda has not incurred any debt—a nickel of debt—in the United States. It was the previous agenda of President

Trump and the Republican Senate and Republicans in the House that created this debt.

Republicans ignore the analysis like the one done by the Washington Post, which observed that “roughly 97 percent of the current U.S. cumulative debt was accrued before Biden took office.” Indeed, none other than the Wall Street Journal made this even clearer. “Raising the debt limit wouldn't facilitate future spending,” it said, “and Congress would still need to raise the debt limit this fall even if no new major spending programs are enacted.”

I want to repeat that not just for Leader MCCONNELL but for my Republican colleagues. Hopefully there are some who will rise to their responsibility and abandon this craven, political move, which would do such harm to the United States, that the Republican leader has proffered. So I will read it again. The Wall Street Journal said, “Raising the debt limit wouldn't facilitate future spending” and went on to say that “Congress would still need to raise the debt limit this fall even if no new major spending programs are enacted.”

So the bottom line is simple. Let me repeat. What Republicans are doing is nothing short of a dine-and-dash of historic proportions. They want working-class American families to foot the bill for their irresponsibility, and as a consequence of their callous political games, it will be veterans and Social Security payment recipients who suffer most.

This isn't just another partisan fight. This isn't who can be more macho. This is about the country. All too often, the press—they make it into macho, macho. That is wrong. What one party is doing here, everyone knows, is deliberately wrong—at least the Republican leader and all those who choose to follow him—with serious consequences for the people. It is not just another partisan fight; it is about avoiding a crisis that would undo all the progress our country has made to heal itself of the COVID crisis.

Democrats are going to do the responsible thing and vote to extend the debt limit when the time comes. We will see which of our Republican colleagues on the other side will have the strength and the courage to follow suit.

I yield the floor.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Margaret Irene Strickland, of New Mexico, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Mexico.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Republican leader is recognized.

GOVERNMENT FUNDING

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, over the past year and a half, senior Democratic leaders decided the upheaval and hardship of a once-in-a-century pandemic was actually a chance to justify radical leftwing change.

This isn't just me conjecturing; it is what they keep saying. Right at the start of the crisis, March 2020, the House Democratic Whip said the pandemic offered "a tremendous opportunity to restructure things to fit our vision."

Just last week, President Biden said: "This pandemic has been God-awful for so many reasons. . . . But"—"but," he said—"it does present us with an opportunity." So they get points for honesty, at least. The reckless taxing-and-spending spree the Democrats are writing behind closed doors is designed to leave Americans with a socialist country they never voted for and a country that working families, in many ways, would barely recognize.

Last night, one of those many efforts hit a stumbling block. Senate Democrats were reminded the rules of this institution will not permit them to shove a massive amnesty for illegal immigrants into a reckless taxing-and-spending spree they want to ram through on a party-line basis.

Our Democratic colleagues cannot pretend that massive transformational policy changes are mere budgetary tweaks. As no less an authority than our colleague now-Chairman BERNIE SANDERS said just a few years ago, "the function of reconciliation is to adjust federal spending and revenue, not"—not—"to enact major changes in social policy." That is Chairman SANDERS a few years ago. That is a lesson he and his caucus need to relearn.

Even with the border as insecure as it has ever been, the far left wanted sweeping amnesty, and Democratic leaders dutifully tried their very best. It just goes to show you how radical this legislation is going to be.

Democrats want to tamper with Americans' Medicare and stretch the program even thinner, while it already faces fiscal challenges. They want to interfere massively with the States that choose not to bow to Obamacare mandates on Medicaid; they want to use healthcare dollars to line the pock-

ets of special interests with big union giveaways; and they want to impose socialist price controls on Americans' medicines that would leave us with fewer new treatments and new cures in the future.

It adds up to a massive leap toward socialized medicine. But somehow this still only scratches the surface.

Democrats are also trying to force through an unprecedented Federal takeover of American families' childcare options that may leave faith-based childcare providers high and dry. They want an all-out assault on affordable, reliable, homegrown American energy so the entire country could be marched toward California utility prices, California gas prices, and California electricity blackouts—just what families want.

Look, I could go on all day. The reckless taxing-and-spending spree that Democrats are writing behind closed doors is shaping up to be exactly what they promised: an effort to exploit this terrible but temporary pandemic as a Trojan horse for permanent socialism.

Now, on a related matter, Democrats have united, unified control of the Senate, the House, and the White House. Their strategy for all this transformational borrowing, spending, and tax hikes was deliberately designed to include no Republican input and to receive no Republican votes.

Since Democrats decided to go it alone, they will not get Senate Republicans' help with raising the debt limit. I have explained this clearly and consistently for over 2 months. We do not have divided government. Democrats do not need our help. They have every tool to address the debt limit on their own—the same party-line process they used to ram through inflationary spending in March and already plan to use once again this fall.

Now, look, this might inconvenience Democrats. It might delay their next reckless taxing-and-spending spree, but Democrats cannot risk the full faith and credit of our Nation to serve their own partisan timelines. Democrats decided to govern alone. Their unified Democratic government must put basic governing duties ahead of partisan wish lists. If they don't, the consequences for our country would be catastrophic.

Senate Republicans would support a clean continuing resolution that includes appropriate disaster relief and targeted Afghan assistance. We will not support legislation that raises the debt limit.

Remember, when the debt suspension lapsed in August, the debt limit was automatically ratcheted up to account for all of the borrowing that had occurred up to that date. This isn't about the past. It is about the future. And Democrats want to build a partisan future without our input. So Democrats will not get bipartisan facilitators for their purely partisan spending binge.

Democrats are fully capable of owning this step themselves. The Demo-

cratic chairman of the House Budget Committee admitted just yesterday: "We can do it through reconciliation. [But] [l]eadership has said they don't want to do that."

One party controls the entire government. They have the power to address this alone. And as I have warned since July, that is what they will need to do.

TRIBUTE TO HAL ROGERS

Madam President, now, on one final matter, Representative HAL ROGERS once described Southeastern Kentuckians by saying: "They're honest, forthright. . . . they can see through a phony in a minute flat." So it is fitting his constituents just reelected him by 70 points. He is certainly honest, forthright, and no phony.

For over 40 years, HAL has fought for his home region and delivered unparalleled support for its development and its growth. In honor of HAL becoming the longest serving Representative in the history of the Commonwealth earlier this September, I would like to pay tribute to this one-of-a-kind Kentuckian.

I first met HAL during the 1971 Kentucky gubernatorial election. He was already a rising star in the State Republican Party, having just been elected Commonwealth's attorney for Pulaski and Rockcastle Counties 2 years prior. As a fellow attorney and young conservative, I looked up to HAL and watched his career with considerable interest.

Less than a decade later, HAL was elected to the House of Representatives in Kentucky's Fifth Congressional District the same year Ronald Reagan was elected President. Since then, he has won reelection 19 times, always by a wide margin. He loves his corner of the State, and as his repeated victories absolutely prove, his constituents love him right back.

Once HAL got to Congress, he quickly went to work fighting for the issues his constituents cared the most about. His hard-won legislative victories earned him praise from fellow House Republicans who tapped him to lead the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Homeland Security in the wake of the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

Eight years later, he became chairman of the full House Appropriations Committee, expertly cutting spending, reducing waste, and directing funds to important projects all across the country. As a former Commonwealth's attorney, HAL used his law enforcement credentials to defend Kentucky from a wide array of threats. Before the rest of America was paying full attention to the scourge of substance abuse, HAL launched Operation UNITE.

The anti-narcotics initiative covers 32 Kentucky counties and has been on the frontlines in the fight against the opioid epidemic, helping to lock up thousands of criminals and remove millions of dollars' worth of illegal drugs from the streets.

HAL is a lead promoter of investment in Southeastern Kentucky, which for

too long has suffered economic distress and seen indifference from Washington. He united Kentucky's Appalachian counties around the Shaping our Appalachian Region, or SOAR, initiative to create a concerted effort to attract jobs and development to the region.

He revolutionized Southeastern Kentucky's water infrastructure, bringing new water treatment centers to our State and championing flood protection measures.

He wrangled Federal funding for the Cumberland Gap Tunnel in Bell County, which he described as "the most significant thing that has happened there since Daniel Boone began to bring settlers through the gap."

He helped bring the fine arts to Southeastern Kentucky through the Mountain Arts Center in Prestonsburg.

Locals are so appreciative of HAL's many projects that they dubbed the state-of-the-art Center for Rural Development in Somerset, one of his capstone initiatives, as the "Taj Ma-Hal" in his honor.

And that is not the only place in HAL's district that commemorates his service. If you visit Southeastern Kentucky, you will drive along the gorgeous Hal Rogers Parkway, study groundbreaking technical advances at the Hal Rogers Advanced Technology Center, and learn important career skills as part of the Hal Rogers Scholars Program.

Whitley County residents were so thankful for HAL's work that they even named the home of their new Kentucky Splash Water Park, the Hal Rogers Family Entertainment Center.

In Congress, we are just as fond of HAL ROGERS as his constituents are back at home. I have been proud to work alongside this premier legislator for nearly four decades. We share the same priorities for the people of Kentucky and the same vision for our State's great future.

HAL would not be the man he is today without the love and support of his late wife Shirley and their children, Anthony, Allison, and John. Later in life, HAL met and married Cynthia, a Tennessean who has also come to love Kentucky and its people.

So as HAL breaks the record as the longest serving U.S. Representative in Kentucky history, let us all give thanks to this great public servant and the entire Rogers family.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mrs. FISCHER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PRECISION AGRICULTURE

Mrs. FISCHER. Madam President, I have heard so many inspiring stories about how small businesses across the country adapted to COVID-19 and refused to give up, even when the odds seemed overwhelming.

Mac's Creek Winery in Lexington, NE, is a great example. Owned by two generations of the McFarland family, this winery and brewery has been a Nebraska favorite since 1999. Like so many other small businesses, they were forced to shut their tasting rooms' doors when COVID hit.

But the McFarlands soon pioneered a new way to share their work with the world. They began hosting virtual tastings through Facebook Live, inviting their community to join them from home and enjoying these Nebraska-made wines.

Their first event in March of 2020 attracted just a few dozen viewers, but their livestreams soon grew to reach thousands of people across the country. HGTV featured them on their website, and they won best virtual event at the Nebraska Tourism Industry Awards last September.

When I visited Mac's Creek earlier this year, I had the chance to see firsthand how they have bounced back from the pandemic. Mac's Creek beat the odds, and they even turned last year's hardships to their advantage. But years before COVID, they overcame an even greater challenge, one that threatened to destroy their entire business.

In 2013, herbicide drift from neighboring farms wiped out nearly all of their 4,000 grapevines. This accident cost them well over \$1 million in lost production and set their growth back by at least 5 years.

They couldn't just move their vineyard somewhere else, so just as they did last year, they looked at what they needed to do and they turned to innovation to find success. With help from a grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Mac's Creek was able to buy purpose-built drones to keep an eye on their 25 acres from above. These drones can help them look for early signs of herbicide drift and stop it from happening before it even starts. And they haven't suffered another incident since.

This Nebraska business took on a risky investment to protect their crops. Their drones are an example of what is known as precision agriculture technology, and Nebraska leads the United States in its adoption.

Producers from wineries to cattle ranchers can use drones and other 21st-century equipment to look after their life's work. For example, if a corn farmer wants to use less water, precision ag technology can help them calculate exactly how much to use. They can produce the same amount of corn using as much as 35 percent less water.

If a rancher wants to equip their feed bunks with sensors that track feed intake, monitor animal health, and even measure emissions from their cattle, precision ag can help them do that.

And these technologies don't just measure inputs. Autosteer and mapping technologies can also make farms more efficient, allowing producers to use less fuel to get better results. All of

these things are potential uses of precision agriculture technology, and all of them help producers become more efficient with their resources.

This equipment, it has been around since the 1990s. But like all technologies, it is constantly changing. As it grows more advanced, the market for it expands as well. And we have seen a huge rise in demand in recent years.

Precision agriculture is revolutionizing the way America's producers put food on our tables, but these technologies aren't cheap. Many farmers with small- or medium-sized operations would love to have these cutting-edge technologies, but their cost puts them just out of reach.

The adoption of precision ag equipment has been greatest on large farms, where the savings spread across many acres can generate enough to make this equipment cost effective. This equipment has the potential to transform the way producers of all sizes manage their farms, but if it only helps a small family farmer save maybe \$5 an acre next season, a \$150,000 investment starts to look a lot less attractive.

Madam President, the World Economic Forum estimates that if just a quarter of the world's farms adopted precision ag practices, farm yields globally could increase by 15 percent. They have also shown that greenhouse gas emissions and water use could decrease by at least the same amount. Adopting these technologies in Nebraska has already helped producers reduce soil erosion and carbon output while also increasing water quality in the area around their operations. And according to a recent report about the environmental benefits of precision ag, even at the current levels, this equipment already saves 30 million pounds of herbicide, 100 million gallons of fossil fuels, and 500 million gallons of water every single year. And that is just in the United States.

These technologies can help us feed a growing population while also caring for our environment. We should be encouraging more producers to turn to precision agriculture, and that is why I am joining with the senior Senator from Minnesota to introduce a bill to create a loan program that would help them do just that.

My bill would establish the Precision Agriculture Loan Program, which would offer low-cost and low-term loans to producers who want to adopt precision ag technologies but they may be unable to make these investments through traditional banks. This would be the first Federal loan program dedicated entirely to precision ag, and instead of upward of 5 percent in interest, producers could pay interest rates under 2 percent on loans 3 to 12 years in length. These loans would cover precision ag technology that improves efficiency or it reduces inputs. My bill would help the math start to make sense for our producers who would like to adopt these technologies, but they haven't been able to afford them.

It is rare to find an issue that is so clearly a win-win for everyone involved. From the University of Nebraska to the Association of Equipment Manufacturers, the Nebraska Farm Bureau, and the American Conservation Coalition, support is growing for making precision agriculture more accessible.

Another bill I introduced with Senator KLOBUCHAR in April, which would help farmers connect precision ag technologies to each other through the internet of things, has been met with a similar outpouring of support. That is because precision agriculture—those technologies—really have no drawbacks. It is better for ag producers, rural communities, consumers, and the environment, all at the same time.

The biggest obstacle is the cost, and that burden falls mostly on the smaller farms that can't afford to take the risks. Well, my bill will give smaller operations the backing that they need to manage those risks.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. GILLIBRAND). The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

IMMIGRATION

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I understand Senator WHITEHOUSE has reserved time on the floor, and I will yield to him when he does arrive, but I would like to say a few words.

I would like to talk about the state of the coronavirus epidemic in our country. But before I do I want to respond to the Senate Parliamentarian's ruling last night on immigration reform.

While I am disappointed by this decision, I am not giving up on this fight. There are too many lives at stake. Over the past 18 months, thousands of DACA recipients and other immigrants have saved American lives as doctors, intensive care nurses, paramedics, respiratory therapists. They have risked their own lives for us, for our friends and loved ones. The least we can do to honor their sacrifice is give them a path to legal status in America.

In the coming days, Senate Democrats will present an alternative proposal to the Senate Parliamentarian. But the fact is, we already know how essential immigrants are to America and our economic future.

During the pandemic, undocumented immigrants have not only been saving lives in our Nation's hospitals. They have been toiling in extreme heat on farms across the country to secure the food that we eat every day in America. They have defended our national security as members of the military. They have been working as home health aides, helping care for our parents and

family members with disabilities. And they have been caring for our children as teachers and childcare workers.

They are Americans in every way except for their official legal status. It is far past time to fix that, and that is exactly what Senate Democrats intend to do through budget reconciliation.

This is an issue which is not new to the Senate. It is certainly not new to me. It was 20 years ago that I introduced the DREAM Act—20 years.

Of course, many people have said: DURBIN, if you are such a great legislator, what are you waiting for?

And a lot of these Dreamers and DACA-protected people have said the same.

I will tell them that, on at least five separate occasions, we have brought the DREAM Act to the floor of the Senate only to be stopped by the filibuster—five times during the course of 20 years.

The one time that it was passed during comprehensive immigration reform, the Republican leadership in the House refused to consider the measure, and it was left in the current state.

I recall the previous President, Donald Trump, assuring me that he was going to take care of those kids—in his own words. Well, he certainly did. He tried to abolish DACA and to remove the protection which 780,000 of these young people have.

You see, these are young people who came to the United States as infants, toddlers, and little babies. They were brought here by their parents, and they grew up in America and did everything you were supposed to do—went to school, had the odd jobs, worked around the house, believed in the future of this country. But when they showed up in the classrooms every day, they lifted their hands and pledged allegiance to that flag. They believed it was their flag. And it wasn't until later in life that their parents leveled with them, told them that wasn't the case at all; they were undocumented—technically illegal, in the words of some.

I can't imagine having that hanging over your head, knowing that any day there might be a knock on the door, that someone in your family might be removed, or your whole family deported, for that matter. They lived under that shadow their entire lives, and they still did remarkable, courageous things.

I have come to the floor of the Senate 125 times to tell their stories individually with color photographs, to let my colleagues know that there are people behind these numbers—real people, amazing people. And over the years that I have told their stories, more and more of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle have come up afterward and said: What can we do?

Well, what we can do is we can pass legislation to give these young people a chance, to give many others a chance too.

These farm workers, for goodness sakes—half of the farm workers toiling

in America today are undocumented. We don't think twice about whether we are going to eat the fruit that they pick or the vegetables they deliver to the market. We take it for granted that it will be there. Many of these people have spent a lifetime working for dirt wages in miserable jobs that many Americans wouldn't consider.

To give them a chance to become legal in America is a reflection on who we are.

I know my critics will say: Aren't you paying any attention to the southern border?

I am. There is a lot to be done. Right now, we are dealing in Del Rio, TX, with thousands of Haitians who were lured by some of these smugglers and others to come to that port in the hope of being able to enter the United States. That is not happening in most cases. Many of them are even being returned to Haiti.

It doesn't solve the individual family problem but addresses the reality of immigration in America today. There are certain fundamentals we need in any immigration system. We won't get those fundamentals with the current laws.

What are they? Basically, we need border security. In an age of terrorism and drugs, we need to know who is coming into this country and whether they are bringing anything with them that will hurt anyone. Secondly, we should never knowingly allow a dangerous person to come in the United States or to stay in an undocumented status, period. And number three, America cannot absorb, at any given time, everyone who wants to come and live here. We have to have an orderly process, one that reflects our values, particularly for those who are seeking asylee and refugee status.

The refugee issue was brought home to us a few days ago in Afghanistan, where families in that country, who had helped American soldiers in every way that they could and risked their own lives, asked for refuge in the United States. The outpouring of support for those refugees outweighed the numbers of critics and cynics, and I am glad because I think that reflects who we really are.

In the next few hours and days, we will be preparing an alternative approach to the Parliamentarian in the hopes that it can be included in reconciliation and not be stopped again by the filibuster, which has held it in the past.

I see my colleague, Senator WHITEHOUSE, has arrived.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Rhode Island.

U.S. SUPREME COURT

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Madam President, I return to the Senate floor to again discuss the scheme to capture our Supreme Court; in this case, it will be through the lens of how recent Justices got on the Court. And I will choose Brett Kavanaugh.

I think we all remember the famous list—the Federalist Society list—that Donald Trump promised to follow in Supreme Court appointments. The first interesting thing about Brett Kavanaugh is that he was not on the list of candidates that Donald Trump had offered up—this list that bought peace between house of Trump and house of Koch. Trump had promised he would appoint off that scheme-approved Federalist Society list. He didn't, and yet no one complained. That is a telltale right there.

There was no complaining because Brett Kavanaugh knew this terrain. He knew the central operative at the heart of this scheme, Leonard Leo. He had worked on judicial nominations in the Bush White House with Leonard Leo, who coordinated big donors' support for judicial nominees.

I have described before a judge who bemoaned to me what he called his colleagues auditioning—auditioning for higher office, auditioning for the Supreme Court. “Auditioning” was a telltale word that stuck with me. You don't audition without someone to audition to. Well, Kavanaugh knew the guy at the center of the scheme, and he knew that the donor turnstile to the Supreme Court was run out of the Federalist Society.

So Kavanaugh not only auditioned with Leo; he auditioned at the Federalist Society. And no one auditioned harder than Brett Kavanaugh. As a circuit judge, he campaigned through 27 Federalist Society events. I think he set the record for auditioning at Federalist Society events. He knew who, and he knew where. And he also knew what the big donors wanted. So he made sure his circuit-court opinions signaled his chops.

On abortion, *Garza v. Hargan*, OK to force a teenager to wait indefinitely for an abortion as the clock ran; check.

On guns, *Heller v. District of Columbia*, a dissent in the follow-up case to the Supreme Court *Heller* decision—in his case, one even more extreme than *Scalia*; check.

For polluters, *PHH v. CFPB*, waving the Federalist Society's unitary executive banner, even saying that regulatory agencies are a significant threat—I am quoting him here, regulatory agencies, the things that protect us from pollution and cheaters, are a “significant threat to individual liberty,” if you are a polluter; check.

And most important to this dark money scheme, *EMILY's List v. FEC*, where he said the front groups “are constitutionally entitled to raise and spend unlimited money in support of candidates for elected office” because it is “implausible that contributions to independent expenditure political committees are corrupting.” Yeah, how could that possibly be corrupting? Check.

So this is behavior. In nature, when you see behavior, you can draw conclusions. When you see, for instance, a vulture wheeling, you can expect some-

thing dead below. It is not always true; the vulture may just be wheeling in an updraft eddy. But when you get a number of vultures wheeling, it is pretty reliable that there is something dead below. And when so many judges start auditioning for advancement that their behavior acquires a name from other judges, you can be pretty sure there is an audience for their auditioning.

And Kavanaugh knew that audience. His relationship with Leonard Leo, his hustling of Federalist Society events, his insider knowledge of the Republican selection process and the big donors, and his ardent display of his wares in all the ways big donors would want, was a winning combination.

So Leonard Leo hand-walked him around the Trump Federalist Society list and straight to the top of the judicial selection pile, and no one with a hand in the Trump-Koch deal that spawned the Federalist Society list voiced an objection.

Kavanaugh had auditioned his way around the list, and the scheme could not have been happier with the outcome. All of that behavior is telling. There is a scheme, and Kavanaugh knew how to play it.

Now that the scheme had its man, they would fight for him. They did not know how hard the fight would be, until Dr. Christine Blasey Ford came forward with a tale of youthful sexual assault by Kavanaugh and a drunken buddy.

But even before that, there were telltales of the pressure to get Kavanaugh onto the Court. Thousands of pages of records from his White House days were withheld; blank pages stamped “Constitutional Privilege” were presented to us on the committee. They couldn't even bring themselves to call it “executive privilege,” the claim was so far-fetched. “Constitutional Privilege” was an invented phrase, but they knew no Republican would object.

The pressure was on. The play had been signaled. The money behind the scheme was the money behind the Republican Party, so Democrats could complain, but the Republican wall would hold. All our objections and requests would be overruled.

Another example of signaling from nature, you can tell a lot about the wind by looking at the water, as sailors know. You don't have to feel it; you can understand the wind by looking at the water. Little wavelets show where gusts of wind can be found on a still day. The water darkens where there are stronger puffs on windy days. As the wind grows, the waves grow bigger, and then whitecaps form. And as the wind strengthens more, wind lines appear—Langmuir circulation, the scientists call it—aligned with the wind's direction. And in a full gale, spindrift, foam from the tops of the waves—spindrift blows off the wave tops.

In the same way that you can tell a lot about the pressure of the wind by looking at the behavior of the water, you can tell a lot about the pressure of

the scheme by looking at the behavior of the Republicans—particularly in the gale-force controversy over Dr. Blasey Ford's testimony. By all rights, in any normal world, Kavanaugh would have been withdrawn. The fact that he wasn't is a telling signal of pressures afoot.

Allegations of sexual violence motivate domestic violence and victims groups, groups which Senators do not ordinarily choose to cross.

Is one judge worth that? Why not just pick another?

Yet they went forward—another telling signal of the pressure.

Senators usually prize their chance to question Supreme Court nominees, yet Republicans gave that up to a female prosecutor sent to disarm Dr. Blasey Ford's testimony—yet another signal.

Of course that didn't work. The witness's testimony was clear and credible. The female prosecutor was sent packing. Republican Senators were left in the touchy position of having to disbelieve Dr. Blasey Ford without any basis for disbelieving her.

Yet only one Republican Senator buckled—another signal. Senator Flake demanded some investigation, and here, the gale force pressure kicked in. This could not go on. Kavanaugh was too great a prize. The FBI was pressured to do a fake investigation. That is a fire alarm of a signal.

We saw many signs of things awry. For a while, early on, the FBI became impervious to information. To put it mildly, that is not the FBI's customary disposition. An FBI that suddenly becomes impervious to information is quite a signal. The FBI was told which few witnesses could be interviewed. The interviews were cursory and terse.

Other witnesses who came forward were ignored or turned away. Even when Dr. Blasey Ford and other witnesses were trolled by the “flying monkeys” of the far right so venomously that Dr. Blasey Ford had to stop teaching, had to leave her home, had to hide herself under the protection of a security detail, witnesses still tried to come forward. So ultimately, under pressure, the FBI announced a tip line for witnesses to contact, but the tip line was a fake.

The FBI has procedures for things, and it has tip line procedures. The FBI did not follow its tip line procedures. It appears the FBI did not follow up on any of the tips that came in on the Kavanaugh tip line. Instead, the FBI routed the Kavanaugh-related tips to the White House Counsel's Office for a decent burial.

We on the committee were ultimately allowed, in a classified setting—classified setting—2 hours of what you could call speed dating with documents to look through pile after pile of documents—no notes allowed, no photos allowed, no copies allowed. One of those piles, though, was tip line results, so we know that tips came in.

The FBI admits thousands of tips came in. None were followed up.

FBI statements at the time said they were following standard procedure. What they meant by that, which they later admitted, is that in background investigations, they are agents of the White House and under White House political direction, so their regular procedures did not apply. The standard procedure they said they were following was the procedure of not following the standard procedures, if you can get around that verbal somersault.

What the FBI did not say is that, aside from standard investigative procedures they did not follow, there are also standard FBI procedures for background investigations. The FBI is a procedure-bound institution. We are still digging and we are going to keep digging, but it looks like they didn't follow those background investigation procedures either.

For apparently the first and only time in a background investigation, I believe an FBI "investigation" was put under the operational control of the White House so that the White House could craft, with the FBI, the appearance of an FBI investigation without any real investigating. The kind of pressure it takes to do that is intense. That is gale force. That is the spindrift flying. It takes a gale of pressure to have the FBI violate so many of its own procedures, to meekly go along with the White House's abuse of the FBI's longstanding reputation for thoroughness and integrity. That is the kind of gale-force pressure the scheme can mount. The scheme had to have its prize.

Republicans even turned their guns on polite, honorable, bipartisan DIANNE FEINSTEIN. She was accused of a corrupt plot to sandbag Kavanaugh. Senator FEINSTEIN is not capable of such a thing, and everyone knows it, so this attack on her was yet another signal.

There was a new narrative to impose. Kavanaugh becomes the victim, wicked Democrats become the wrongdoers, Dr. Blasey Ford and her testimony get swept aside, and, in a well-whipped stampede of partisan tribal anger and grievance, Kavanaugh sweeps onto the Court.

Another signal that I am still seeing now is the effort of rightwing media to cover this all up. After Senator COONS and I pressed the FBI on this bogus investigation, the National Review and other rightwing outlets immediately published articles to tidy things up. Their main source seems to be a former Republican Judiciary staffer who tweeted and then deleted "Unfazed and determined. We will confirm Judge Kavanaugh" just a few days after the Blasey Ford investigation came to light, before this so-called investigation was concluded.

The coverup article suggests three things: First, hey, we had a chance to read all of the over 4,500 tips the FBI received; second, there was a 400- or a 600—it varies depending on the arti-

cle—page FBI report assessing the tips and exonerating Kavanaugh that was circulated to all Senators, and all we had to do was read it; and third, that had there been anything wrongful or incriminating or derogatory that was found, it could have been referred for further investigation.

Let's look at those three claims.

First, this "open access" to those documents was the 2-hour window I was talking about where we could go in and speed-date with raw FBI documents in piles and interview reports—again, no notes, no copies, no pictures; just piles of documents in a room we had to walk through and clear out of—and if we wanted, we could return to review the documents when votes on cloture and confirmation were ongoing. I am not making that up.

The supposed report, this 400- or 600- or whatever page report, is actually a 28-page document compiled by Republican Senate Judiciary Committee staff, not the FBI, with hundreds of pages of attachments to thicken it up. Those 28 pages are pure political whitewash that cast aside the credible claims offered to the FBI for further investigation but altogether ignored. Saying that this Republican committee report—so-called—was available to Senate Democrats is like saying we should have turned on FOX News for the lowdown on these tips—not actually.

As to the idea that we could have referred anything suspicious for further examination, I really don't know what these rightwing outlets are talking about. If they meant the FBI, that is not true. The FBI and the White House had agreed that the investigation was over as far as they were concerned. If they mean the Senate Judiciary Committee, that is as laughable as the 28-page whitewash.

One last signal here. The FBI continues to dodge questions about this investigation. It was over 2 years ago that Senator COONS and I asked simple, direct questions about the tip line. Only this summer did we receive the first smidgeon of a response. The response deflected us to an MOU between the White House and the FBI, which, when we dug around and found it, which we had to do ourselves, proved not to substantiate what we were being told. So we repeated our questions and repeated our questions, and last week, Director Wray appeared in Senate Judiciary and promised answers in 2 weeks. We will see.

As a prosecutor, I know those cases where you can't go forward, for a victim, with charges. There could be innumerable reasons, but sometimes you just can't. In those unfortunate cases, it can matter a great deal to the victim that she at least got an honest and thorough investigation of her claim. Dr. Blasey Ford was denied even that. The FBI sacrificed her to the gale-force political pressure applied by the scheme to get this well-auditioned nominee into place.

And let's get real. You don't apply gale-force political pressure for judges who are just going to call balls and strikes. Four hundred million dollars—\$400 million—has been spent in dark money on this Court-capture scheme. For \$400 million, you don't want balls and strikes. You want judges who will throw the game for you. You want what you paid for—a captured Court. And if you look at its track record, that is this Court. It is the Court that dark money built, and it is delivering.

To be continued.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia.

REMEMBERING JOHN KENNEDY BAILEY

Mr. MANCHIN. Madam President, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of a diligent public servant and proud West Virginian who was recently taken from us far, far too soon. His name was John Kennedy Bailey. Gayle and I extend our deepest condolences to the members of John's beloved family.

I have known John since he was a child. He grew up in Fairmont, my home area, with an absolutely loving family. I have been so proud to watch him grow into such a hard-working, compassionate person who raised his own loving family. My heart aches for his whole family but especially his wife Holly and their children, Jack, Brooks, and Lisette, whose lives have been changed in a tragic instant.

It is in these sorrowful moments that we see how much a person meant to so many. Since we lost him, John's friends have stepped forward with stories of his compassion, his kindness, and of his public service. I know that all of us who are grieving him find comfort that his last measure was giving himself through organ donation, sharing the gift of life for someone who needed it most.

When I think of John, I think of a man who all of us aspire to be—a man who lives life to his fullest, makes the most of every day by giving back to those around him. I think of the words of Dylan Thomas, a Welsh poet, who described such a man as:

Good men, the last wave by, crying how bright
Their frail deeds might have danced in a green bay,
Rage, rage against the dying of the light.
Wild men who caught and sang the sun in flight,
And learn, too late, they grieved it on its way,
Do not go gentle into that good night.

John lived every day by catching the Sun in flight, and that is one of the many reasons that so many people loved him. It is my hope that his friends and family have found peace, strength, and support in one another and in the support of our entire home State as we mourn our shared loss of this wonderful, wonderful person. That is why it is befitting that his life is forever memorialized in this CONGRESSIONAL RECORD through this speech on the U.S. Senate floor today.

John represented the very best of West Virginia from a very young age. As a Knight of the Golden Horseshoe in eighth grade, president of his senior class at Fairmont Senior High School, and attendee of the Mountaineer Boys State, he excelled throughout his entire scholastic career—so much so that after graduating from Yale University, he joined Congressman Nick Rahall's staff, helping West Virginians in Washington, DC.

But the call of the mountains was strong for John, and he returned home to attend WVU Law School. While at WVU Law, he clerked on Wall Street but knew his biggest impact would be in his home State, so he found his way to Charleston. John was dedicated to bettering the Charleston community as the owner of his own law firm and while serving as city councilman.

John was dedicated to his community, whether through his recent mission to revive Charleston's recycling program or his brilliant idea to increase the Cardinal Train's service to Charleston that he recently worked on with my office.

John was not only a dedicated public servant but a talented attorney and successful businessman. He will be remembered for his professional abilities, as well as his service to his community. But most importantly, John will be remembered for his commitment to his children and family, spending much of his time at Jack, Brooks, and Lisette's many activities. He was well-known among the staff and parents of Capital-Midwestern Little League, Capital High School, Horace Mann Middle School, and Mountaineer Montessori. He would stop by the community center often just to see how the staff and students were doing.

John was so very kind and always thinking of how he could make his community better, no matter how out of the box his ideas seemed to be. He never met a stranger, and was also such a good friend to myself, my Charleston staff, and all West Virginians.

What is most important is that he lived a full life, surrounded by the people he loved most. I extend my deepest condolences to John's wife, Holly; and their children, Jack, Brooks, and Lisette; his parents, Joyce and former State Treasurer Larrie Bailey; his siblings, Anne and David, and their families; and his many friends and extended family. We will forever keep John and his family in our prayers.

Godspeed, John. We miss you.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

BORDER SECURITY

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, the crisis along our southern border is bad and has been getting worse since Joe Biden became President.

Last month, more than 200,000 migrants crossed our southern border—the second month in a row that we have seen a number that high. Since

President Biden raised his right hand and took the oath of office on January 20, Customs and Border Protection has stopped more than 1.2 million border crossers. That is nearly triple the total number it was at this point in the Obama administration, and more than eight times the number of migrants stopped at this point during the Trump administration.

These numbers have real consequences. Migrants are exploited, abused, raped, and some die on their dangerous trips to our border. Once they arrive, Border Patrol, local law enforcement, and nongovernmental organizations are expected to do a lion's task with a mouse's resources, and the surge of resources to migrants leaves serious security vulnerabilities that are exploited by cartels and criminal organizations.

Even before this current crisis with Haitians, Border Patrol officials have told me, just to deal with unaccompanied children and the number of migrants coming to the border, that as many as 40 percent of the Border Patrol have had to leave the front lines of protecting the border, which means that the drug cartels can simply exploit those gaps in the Border Patrol's security line in order to move illegal drugs into the United States that, last year alone, took the lives of more than 90,000 Americans by overdose.

As though things weren't challenging enough already, the city of Del Rio, with a population of 35,000 people, has been flooded by a group of nearly 15,000 migrants. Can you imagine? A city of 35,000 sees this huge human tsunami of 15,000 migrants almost exclusively from Haiti.

By the way, this ought to demonstrate that this is not just a regional phenomenon. I know the Vice President went down to Central America and said that she talked to the Presidents of the Central American countries, of the Triangle countries, and said: Please don't send your people to the United States.

Meanwhile, the green light was on at the border as a result of the refusal to enforce the basic security laws that were put in place by the previous administration. In fact, it looks like the guiding principle of the Biden administration was, whatever the previous administration did, we are going to undo it.

They forgot to put an alternative plan in place, and so the people keep coming—1.2 million migrants, just so far, since the Biden administration began. Well, migrants have now set up a camp under the International Bridge in Del Rio, in 100-degree temperatures. And they have been so brazen that they literally have gone back and forth across the river to Mexico to purchase supplies—food, water, or whatever. They have been able to go back and forth virtually at will.

Border Patrol and State and local officials have been working around the clock to ease the humanitarian crisis

that President Biden and his policies created, and they are being overwhelmed.

As I said, Del Rio isn't a huge city with unlimited resources. It is, roughly, 2½ times the size of the migrant group, and like other border communities, the city has experienced a one-two punch in the last year and a half because of COVID-19. First came the pandemic and a full range of new expenses. Then the strain was compounded by the restrictions on so-called nonessential cross-border travel, which has been in place for a year and a half.

Pre-pandemic folks from Mexico, if they had the proper paperwork, would travel across the border to shop, to eat, and to visit family members, and they were huge economic drivers of our border communities.

The Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas estimated that, prior to these restrictions, between 40 to 45 percent of all retail activity in Laredo, for example, was attributable to Mexican nationals. That has dried up completely.

Leaders in Texas, like the ones I met with in Brownsville last week, are struggling to understand the contradiction between the Biden administration's two different approaches. On the one hand, the administration is saying it is too dangerous for Mexican nationals to visit families in Texas or to shop in our stores because of the virus; but on the other hand, the administration is allowing 1.2 million migrants to cross our borders—untested, unvaccinated, most of whom are simply waved on through into the interior of the United States and told to appear at a future court hearing, which most of them will never show up for.

We simply don't know what kind of risks these untested, unvaccinated migrants who are being waved into the interior of the United States could pose to communities in Texas or across the country.

Just last week, the Department of Homeland Security Office of Inspector General found that, without stronger COVID-19 testing measures in place, the Department is putting everyone—migrants, Border Patrol agents, Customs agents, and the local communities along the border—at greater risk.

Still, the Biden administration has refused to take any sort of serious action that would stop the flood of humanity coming across our border. Yes, they have paid lip service. They have said: Don't come.

Meanwhile, the migrants are on the phone, talking to family in the United States, or they are simply watching American TV as the flood of humanity continues to come across the border without there being any real consequences.

On Friday, the current surge of primarily Haitian migrants became so overwhelming that the Biden administration closed a legal port of entry in Del Rio, as well as interior checkpoints.

For those of our colleagues who have actually been to the border, they know that Customs and Border Protection checks people as they enter the country at the border, but there are also interior checkpoints because we know many people aren't identified until they are found in an 18-wheeler trailer or embedded in some sort of hiding place or when the drugs that people are trying to smuggle into the United States are found often at the interior checkpoints.

Because of the flood of humanity coming across the border because the Border Patrol at Del Rio was so overwhelmed, 400 Border Patrol agents were reassigned from other places, including interior checkpoints, to come help deal with the masses. That created a huge vulnerability for the drug smugglers and human smugglers. So-called nonessential travel was already shut down, but the administration bungled the entire situation so badly that they had to shut down essential trade and travel as well.

Last Friday, I spoke with Border Patrol Deputy Chief Manny Padilla—somebody I have known for years and who used to be the chief of the Rio Grande Valley's sector of the Border Patrol. He told me that the main focus at the time, of course, was trying to deal with the humanitarian crisis of getting food, water, and sanitation to these individuals. Once the most urgent humanitarian needs are met, the processing and potential removal of migrants will move more quickly.

So far, a few thousand migrants have been moved to other Border Patrol sectors for processing. Again, because Del Rio's sector was overwhelmed, they had to bus them as far away as Arizona just to process people through the border. Some have already been returned to Haiti, and in the coming days, we can expect more flights to move some of the thousands of migrants back home.

The Department of Homeland Security has claimed that they will use title 42, a public health authority, to expel the vast majority of migrants. But the administration needs to be honest with us.

Will they use this title 42 authority—again, to protect the public health—to expel migrant families, too, and not just single adults? If not, will the Department use the expedited removal authority to swiftly remove these migrant families and, in doing so, deter others from coming? Or will they essentially continue to wave people through, encouraging even more migrants to make their way to the border? And will these migrants that they do have remain in custody until a removal decision is rendered?

We know that catch and release simply doesn't work. It can be exploited to the point where people know that, if we don't detain them, we will give them this notice to appear—sometimes called, in Spanish, a *permiso*—and they will be sent into the interior of the

United States, many of whom are never heard from again.

The Department of Homeland Security and the administration need to back up their proposed plans of dealing with this crisis—and their public statements—with real and immediate consequences to cut off the flow and deter future immigration.

There is a clear and urgent need for Congress to take action, and contrary to what our Democratic colleagues believe, blanket amnesty is not the answer. That will serve as an additional magnet for illegal immigration.

Rather than address the crisis at hand, our Democratic colleagues have spent the bulk of this year figuring out how to bend the rules of the Senate to grant citizenship to millions of people who have entered this country illegally.

Their plan would have provided legal status to people who entered the country as recently as this year, as long as they would have been 18 years or younger when they had arrived. It would have turned our ag sector on its head by legalizing unlawfully present farmworkers with absolutely no provisions to ensure that our agriculture producers would have access to a stable workforce. And it would have legalized millions of people with temporary protected status without even addressing the fact that this temporary program has been in existence for three decades.

There is a reason that Senate Democrats tried to pass a partisan bill by using the arcane budget procedures instead of the normal legislative process. These policies do nothing to alleviate the crisis that has existed on the border since Joe Biden became President. They fail to address the underlying reason people are unlawfully present and living in the shadows in the first place, and they literally reward illegal immigration. It is unfair to those immigrants who follow our laws and wait patiently in line.

Yesterday, the Senate Parliamentarian confirmed what we already suspected, and that is that our Democratic colleagues will not be able to use budget procedures to grant citizenship to millions of undocumented immigrants in a purely partisan budget reconciliation bill. Our Democratic colleagues have said they have a plan B, and while I haven't seen any details about what that might entail, I seriously doubt it will succeed. I hope our colleagues will respect the decision made by the neutral, unbiased guidance of the Parliamentarian and avoid nuking the rules of the Senate to achieve a partisan political goal.

In the meantime, there is a clear and urgent crisis on our southern border, and President Biden has proven that he is either unwilling or incapable of addressing it.

But Congress also has a duty to take action that can only be done in a bipartisan way. It is not too late for our friends across the aisle to abandon their partisan amnesty plan and work

with us on this side to address the actual crisis at hand.

And I have a suggestion about where we can start. Last April, Senator SINEMA, the senior Senator from Arizona, and I introduced the Bipartisan Border Solutions Act to address this unfettered flow of immigration.

I have been proud to also work—we have both been proud to work with two friends and colleagues in the House—Congressman HENRY CUELLAR, a Democrat, and TONY GONZALES, a Republican. So it is literally a bipartisan and bicameral piece of legislation.

Perhaps it is because the four of us live in and represent border States, we have spent time listening and learning from the men and women who safeguard our border and those who care for migrants and those who live in these border communities that are disproportionately impacted.

There are a lot of people who talk about what has happened at the border who have never even been there. They inaccurately characterize border communities as unsafe and lawless. They villainize the Border Patrol and other law enforcement agencies for actually enforcing the laws that Congress has passed. And they propose blanket solutions to the complex challenges that exist, which would do far more harm than good.

The fact is, the border is a beautiful, safe, and vibrant region. The men and women who lead and protect these communities are doing everything in their power to fairly and humanely respond to the crisis, but they are simply being overwhelmed and asked to do something that is the Federal Government's responsibility.

That is why our legislation is important. It would streamline the processing of migrants in regional processing centers that would provide new protections for unaccompanied children, one-third of whom have been lost—lost—because they have been placed with sponsors, and when the Federal Government tries to follow up and find out how they are doing, a third of them never respond, and they are lost to the system.

Our bill would also expedite legal proceedings and ensure that we have enough immigration judge teams, asylum officers, and staff to do things the right way. A number of groups have endorsed the bill, not partisan groups, and it constitutes a simple starting point that Democrats and Republicans should be able to agree on.

Democrats cannot continue to turn a blind eye to the humanitarian crisis on our southern border. To borrow a phrase from a sign held by one Del Rio resident last week: "No more optics. We want action."

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, first, I thank Senator CORNYN for his remarks, particularly the points he made about the ruling of the Parliamentarian. I come to the floor to address the same issue.

We received last night guidance from the Senate Parliamentarians regarding the unprecedented attempt to include wide-ranging immigration provisions in the upcoming reconciliation bill.

Now, for the public at large, when they hear the word “reconciliation,” it is a process by which you don’t have to have 60 votes in the U.S. Senate to get to finality on a bill. But reconciliation is something that has been used only twice, I believe, in the last 5 years. So it is not something that you just willy-nilly go to to get a lot of things done that you couldn’t otherwise get done. But this looks like what the Democrat majority is trying to do in the reconciliation bill with the issue of immigration, and so I am thankful for the decision made by the Parliamentarian.

That guidance by the Parliamentarian indicated that a proposal to legalize millions of undocumented immigrants is not appropriate for inclusion in a budget reconciliation bill.

As ranking member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, my office was deeply involved in the bipartisan discussions that took place with the Parliamentarian on this issue. I will say that I agree with the Parliamentarian’s guidance. I think it reflects an obvious truth—changing the law to legalize millions of undocumented immigrants is a major policy change with significant impact that reaches far beyond the Federal budget and not appropriate for reconciliation.

More broadly, reform of our immigration laws is an important public policy issue. It is a topic that many Americans and many Members of Congress on both sides of the aisle care deeply about. It is an issue that inspires fierce debate, sharp disagreements, and great passion in people on both sides of the argument. It does so because, at its core, the issue of immigration is about the policies that we put in place to give people from all around the world one of the most meaningful and precious gifts that we can give—the right to legally establish your life here and, in many cases, pursue American citizenship. And whether you pursue citizenship or not, you have the right to the American dream.

And you can see how important that coming to the United States is by just the hundreds of thousands of people so far this year breaking our laws to come into this country. It shows you how exceptional our great America is and the economic and the political and the social system we have that is so endeared to people all over the world that they want to come here, even breaking our laws to get here.

And, of course, whether it is citizenship or the American dream, that is not something that can be boiled down to a Congressional Budget Office score. It is not something that can be reduced to a line item in the Federal budget. I think everyone here in Congress and Americans around the country already knew that.

That is what made this most recent attempt to abuse the reconciliation

process by the Democratic leadership even more obvious.

As ranking member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, I look forward to continue working with my colleagues on measures to secure the border and improve our immigration system, but those measures need to be pursued in a way that complies with the rules of the Senate, not the subterfuge of what we call reconciliation.

The recent proposal put forward by Democrats in the Senate clearly was not, and I hope we can engage in a more productive legislative process moving forward on the subject of immigration.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama.

BUDGET RECONCILIATION

Mr. TUBERVILLE. Madam President, our country is facing several crises as we speak. We are facing a border crisis with recordbreaking numbers of illegal immigrants pouring into our country daily, weekly, and monthly. We are facing a political and humanitarian crisis in the aftermath of a chaotic withdrawal from Afghanistan resulting from a fatally flawed political decision.

And we are still facing a public health crisis with the resurgence of COVID putting a strain on our healthcare system and our entire economy.

And despite the finger-pointing that President Biden has tried to do, we are seeing the real impact of his failed policies.

Every one of these crises, from the border to Afghanistan, to COVID, require our attention immediately. But you haven’t heard much more than a peep from our colleagues on the left.

Instead, they are focused on jamming through a \$3.5 trillion spending bill. You know, even if you spent \$5 million per day, every single day of the year, it would still take almost 2,000 years to spend \$3.5 trillion. Think about that. Five million a day, 365 days a year, would take 2,000 years to spend \$3.5 trillion.

So they are either completely tone deaf on the left or they are playing a game of hide the ball in an attempt to divert attention from these very real problems that are facing our country today.

You might find yourself asking, rightfully so: How will this package help the crisis our Nation is facing now, today? Will it help secure the border? Will it bring home Americans who were abandoned in Afghanistan? Will it encourage folks to talk to their doctor about getting the vaccine?

The answer across the board is a definite no. This reckless tax-and-spending spree will not do any of the above things.

What it will do is add to inflation, which is already at the highest point dating back to at least 2010.

With recordbreaking inflation and American families feeling the squeeze,

it is long past time for Congress to pass some fiscal restraint. American families across this country have to. They have to have restraint, so why wouldn’t we have to have it?

But the real kicker, as if spending \$3.5 trillion is not enough, is what they want to spend it on. If you think the pricetag is shocking, wait until you hear what programs are going to be funded with your taxpayer dollars.

Tucked into this legislation is a laundry list of progressive initiatives to expand Medicare, fund climate programs, and provide universal preschool and free college, all while inflation is going sky high.

With this bill, Democrats are painting a vision—their vision for what they think America should be, not what it is, and that is a socialist, welfare state with handout programs from cradle to grave, with not one work incentive included.

And remember, this bill only needs 50 votes, and because of that, they are trying to tack on everything that they know can’t pass at a 60-vote threshold. That includes the illegal immigrants, which we have talked about. They were actually considering this in the middle of a border crisis, which is as illogical as it is radical. It shows you just how radical this thing is—so radical that they tried to stick a policy provision into a budget bill, which, thank goodness, got struck down this weekend.

The Democrats are also adding in parts of this disastrous PRO Act, including a provision to overturn 85 years of precedent enabling lawsuits from civil penalties. This would allow unions to bleed businesses dry. It would cause many companies to close up shop and move operations overseas.

It is truly the kitchen-sink approach to try to bypass any Republican weight in on these important issues on behalf of the America that we all represent.

And if you think these policies are bad, the taxes are worse. Democrats are looking at a litany of taxes to throw at Americans to cover some of the costs of the far-left agenda.

Top on the list is an increase in the corporate tax rate from 21 percent to 26.5 percent. That is higher than communist China’s corporate tax—higher than China’s. President Trump’s signature Tax Cuts and Jobs Act lowered this rate. As a result, we saw a surge of corporations returning to American shores, and over \$1 trillion flowed back into the country after lowering this rate. A reversal of President Trump’s pro-business tax policy will directly hit American businesses—the heart of this country. That is simply something we can’t afford.

Family farms—they are going to come under assault like everybody else with the increase of the capital gains tax and death tax. To make matters worse for farmers, our Democratic colleagues want to increase taxes on family farms at the time of inheritance by doing away with the longstanding step-up in basis rule.

For every family across Alabama, this tax bill would mean an average tax increase of over \$500. More taxes mean paychecks don't go as far. More taxes mean small businesses will struggle to afford to keep employees on the payroll. And more taxes mean less economic freedom.

Finally, the Democrats want to increase the power of the IRS—we are all fired up about that—by requiring financial institutions to report any and all financial transactions of \$600 or more made by their customers. Presently, it is \$10,000. They want to drop it down to \$600. They want the IRS to be able to keep tabs on how you are spending the money that you earn—not somebody else, the money that you earn.

This means that every check you write, every bill you pay, every Venmo you send, and every stock purchase you make over \$600 will be reported to the IRS.

Why do they need this information? They don't even effectively use the data they collect now. It is going to put businesses, banks in a huge bind. Turning this information over to the IRS will only give the government more ability to go after taxpayers whose politics they don't like.

Remember Lois Lerner—Lois Lerner from the Obama administration. The IRS has a long history of unequal enforcement. Earlier this summer, for example, they denied tax-exempt status to a Texas charity because, according to the IRS, the organization's commitment to the Christian faith tied it too closely to the Republican Party. That is disgraceful.

Requiring financial institutions to report this data to the IRS would put a huge burden on the community banks and credit unions. Some of the smallest institutions will be forced to close their doors because the cost to comply will be too high. We can't allow that to happen. These businesses are the backbone of Main Street America and play a key role in getting capital into the hands of middle-class Americans.

This policy would also disproportionately hurt minority communities and folks living in rural areas, many of whom are already distrustful of Big Government and would be pushed out of the banking system. Democrats say they want to help these folks get financial services, but this policy would do exactly the opposite.

Our colleagues on the left want to spend to no end, and the American people are sounding the alarm. In a recent poll, 80 percent of Americans directly point to the economic policies of this administration for their financial hardships and the rising prices of everyday goods and services.

When asked about the concerns of rising prices at the grocery store as a result of this administration's poor economic policies, an administration official said: If you take out beef, pork, and poultry, the rising prices are normal.

Well, proteins like beef and poultry make up 63 percent of grocery items purchased—63 percent. So when prices rise as they are now, it directly impacts American families. There is nothing normal about that. It is unacceptable.

But it is not only the price of groceries that are rapidly rising. According to the National Retail Federation, back-to-school spending is expected to increase more than \$3 billion from 2020, just in 1 year, with the average household spending upward of \$800 on school supplies.

Rapidly rising prices translate to a tax on the American consumer. There is no other way to put it. Inflation is a tax, one that is already weighing heavily on the shoulders of all American families.

Don't just take my word for how bad this bill is. Even some of their own party have come out against it, asking Congress to take a strategic pause on spending billions upon billions of taxpayer dollars.

We are not even through the year yet, but this out-of-control spending will amount to at least \$6.5 trillion before the year is over. You heard me right—\$6.5 trillion. To put it another way, that equates to more than \$50,000 for every household across the country, costing more than ObamaCare and World War II combined.

Considering that there is not an initiative in this bill that would address any of the crises facing our Nation today, it begs the question: Why are the Democrats in such a hurry to spend so much?

You know, the Federal Government cannot keep writing blank checks and expect future generations to pay the bill. It can't happen. This is real money we are talking about. This is not Monopoly money. The Federal Government cannot keep turning a blind eye to legitimate crises facing our country in order to hastily enact a partisan agenda.

It was then-Vice President Joe Biden who said: "Show me your budget, and I'll tell you what you value."

I would encourage the President to heed his own remarks, because this reckless tax-and-spend policy is exactly the opposite of what Americans want, need, and value.

FEDERAL RETIREMENT THRIFT INVESTMENT BOARD NOMINEES

Madam President, on another note, I rise to request that the nominations submitted by the President on September 13 to be members of the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board be referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs for a hearing.

This board has the important task of administering the Thrift Savings Plan, better known as TSP, which is the retirement investment plan utilized by 6 million members of our Federal workforce, including our Nation's Armed Forces. The members of this Board make decisions impacting the retire-

ment savings of millions of Americans. This is a huge responsibility.

Recognizing that responsibility, the Trump administration rightfully put in place a ban on TSP investment in Chinese companies, but that ban is no longer in force, exposing these Americans to significant economic risk and undermining U.S. national security interests.

Because Congress has given the Board oversight of retirement investment of millions of Americans and because the previous China investment plan is no longer in place, Congress has a duty to thoroughly vet these nominees.

Our adversaries are trying to do everything possible to get a leg up on the United States. Because we are the greatest country on the face of the Earth, investments in companies with Chinese Communist Party ties are a direct threat to our national security. Such investments funnel capital to companies that commonly violate U.S. sanction laws and that are actively working to facilitate China's military expansion and the persecution of religious minorities. Chinese companies are notorious for their deep ties to the Chinese Communist Party and for their support of government, surveillance, and espionage activities.

But Chinese companies also have a long history of costing investors billions in losses by manipulating financial reporting statements and failing to comply with basic audit standards in an effort to artificially inflate their success. The Luckin Coffee incident is just one of the first that comes to mind. Fraudulent practices like these put the retirement savings of Americans in jeopardy.

This is exactly why, earlier this year, I introduced legislation to prohibit Thrift Savings Plan funds from being invested in Chinese companies—to protect the retirement savings of our Federal civilian workforce and our Armed Forces.

Protecting these Americans' investments and our country's national security is a serious issue requiring serious consideration. If confirmed, President Biden's nominees to the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board would be the gatekeepers, and Congress has a responsibility to thoroughly vet them.

I hope that my colleagues on the Homeland Security Committee will question each nominee on their position on TSP investment in China. Our Nation's military and civilian public servants have a right to know the nominees' views on this issue since the preservation of their retirement savings hangs in the balance.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

Mr. CARDIN. Madam President, I ask that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the clerk will report the Rossman nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Veronica S. Rossman, of Colorado, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Tenth Circuit.

VOTE ON ROSSMAN NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Rossman nomination?

Mr. CARDIN. Madam President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN), the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS), and the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN).

The result was announced—yeas 50, nays 42, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 366 Ex.]

YEAS—50

| | | |
|--------------|--------------|------------|
| Baldwin | Hickenlooper | Reed |
| Bennet | Hirono | Rosen |
| Blumenthal | Kaine | Sanders |
| Booker | Kelly | Schatz |
| Brown | King | Schumer |
| Cantwell | Klobuchar | Shaheen |
| Cardin | Leahy | Sinema |
| Carper | Lujan | Smith |
| Casey | Manchin | Stabenow |
| Collins | Menendez | Tester |
| Coons | Merkley | Van Hollen |
| Cortez Masto | Murkowski | Warner |
| Duckworth | Murphy | Warnock |
| Durbin | Murray | Warren |
| Gillibrand | Ossoff | Whitehouse |
| Hassan | Padilla | Wyden |
| Heinrich | Peters | |

NAYS—42

| | | |
|----------|------------|------------|
| Barrasso | Grassley | Portman |
| Blunt | Hagerty | Risch |
| Boozman | Hawley | Romney |
| Braun | Hoeven | Rubio |
| Burr | Hyde-Smith | Sasse |
| Capito | Johnson | Scott (FL) |
| Cornyn | Kennedy | Scott (SC) |
| Cotton | Lankford | Shelby |
| Cramer | Lee | Thune |
| Crapo | Lummis | Tillis |
| Cruz | Marshall | Toomey |
| Daines | McConnell | Tuberville |
| Ernst | Moran | Wicker |
| Fischer | Paul | Young |

NOT VOTING—8

| | | |
|-----------|--------|----------|
| Blackburn | Graham | Rounds |
| Cassidy | Inhofe | Sullivan |
| Feinstein | Markey | |

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HEINRICH). The Senator from Oregon.

Mr. WYDEN. I ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be

considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Oregon.

TRIBUTE TO JAKE OKEN-BERG

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I come to the floor today to bid farewell to an individual who has not only served as a longtime staff member but a highly respected member of our close-knit team, Jake Oken-Berg. Serving for the last 10 years as my business liaison, Jake has been my ambassador to Oregon's business community and its leaders. Frankly, when you consider some of my positions, Jake has undoubtedly developed the diplomatic skills necessary to actually be an ambassador.

Jake has always approached his work with enthusiasm and a positive attitude, with steadfast determination to help me build and maintain critical partnerships with the business community throughout the State and to provide their feedback on how we can write better legislation.

His creative pursuit of my partnership with the business community was on full display when he organized our office's "Made in Oregon" manufacturing tour. That tour comprised many trips across the State over several years, with business leaders, owners, and managers. Some of the most interesting gatherings I have ever been at were part of that "Made in Oregon" tour. It highlighted the contributions that Oregon's businesses, manufacturers, and workers are making to our State and to the country, and it shined a light on policies that are needed to ensure American companies and American workers stay competitive in the 21st century.

Over the past decade, Jake has helped develop policies and strategies relevant to many sectors of Oregon's growing economy.

One such strategy has been to make Oregon a global leader in mass timber, including the production of cross-laminated timber and mass plywood and the research on charring and stress loads necessary to rewrite building codes.

Another strategy has been to make Oregon a national leader in the production of hemp for CBD, building on Oregon's legal cannabis industry.

Yet another strategy has been building up Oregon's sustainable energy industry, accelerating the development of wind and solar and wave energy and supporting measures to increase the efficiency of the manufacturing process to use less energy.

It is pretty staggering to think of all the balls Jake had to juggle at the same time over those 10 years, but he did it, and he did it making it look easy.

Our team and our State saw the fruits of Jake's decade of partnership pay off over this last year and a half as businesses throughout Oregon faced extremely difficult, dark days amid the pandemic and the economic recession.

As businesses ground to a halt and workers quarantined at home, owners and managers were grappling with issues of how to continue to pay employees or whether they had to let them go, paying rents and leases, paying subcontractors and suppliers under the threat of going out of business.

So many owners and managers reached out to my office seeking assistance to access the economic injury disaster loans and the Paycheck Protection Program to keep their businesses and their employees afloat. Jake coordinated our response, communicating not only with the business leaders but with the local elected officials and the leaders of our business chambers. He produced guidance. He organized roundtables. He led discussions. He served as a hotline for every question. He helped owners figure out how to address unique challenges as they arose.

When business owners were getting turned away from their own banks, for instance, Jake took the lead in developing alternative approaches so they could get the help they needed. And when specific sectors, like the live entertainment sector, which is such a staple of life and culture in our State of Oregon, was left out of the list of businesses that could receive emergency aid, Jake made it his business to get that changed. I can't even begin to guess how many Oregon businesses and workers were able to weather those dark and difficult days because of Jake's all-out efforts.

I suspect that if he was here right now and we asked him what, after a decade of service, his greatest accomplishment has been, he would say it was simply to help make Oregon a better place for businesses and for workers, and then he might pause and, being the huge soccer fan that he is, say that a high point was when he made a connection so that I could spend a day with the owner of our Portland Timbers.

So, Jake, thank you for giving so much to the team and to the people of Oregon over these last 10 years. It goes without saying that it is going to be a monumental undertaking trying to fill your shoes, and you are going to be missed by every member of our team. We wish you the best. We look forward to continuing to follow the great things that you will do in your next chapter for our State and for the country. We know that in whatever form it takes, you will never stop working to build a better world.

Well done, Jake Oken-Berg, and thank you.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—S. 535

Ms. ERNST. Mr. President, we recently marked the 20th anniversary of September 11, a day that forever changed our Nation. This direct assault on our country sparked the Global War on Terrorism, a war that came at great personal cost to our men and women serving in the Armed Forces.

As a combat veteran, as the mother of a future soldier, even simply as an American, the events in Afghanistan have been extremely disheartening to watch. I have heard from so many veterans and servicemembers who served during this war, many of whom are distraught and disappointed at the haphazard way the war in Afghanistan came to a close. I have also heard from too many Gold Star families who lost so much during this conflict—their spouses, their fathers, their mothers, brothers, sisters, sons, and daughters.

Recent events have left them questioning themselves and whether their family member's sacrifice was worth it.

While we can't put the genie back in the bottle when it comes to what happened in Afghanistan last month, we can properly memorialize the service of the brave men and women who fought and died to protect and defend the United States since the beginning of the Global War on Terror.

I stand before you today to ask that the Senate join with me in honoring our Global War on Terrorism veterans and the sacrifices they made by supporting and passing my bipartisan bill, the Global War on Terrorism Memorial Location Act.

In August of 2017, Congress passed and President Trump signed into law our bill authorizing the creation of a memorial commemorating the sacrifices of all those wonderful Americans who fought in the Global War on Terrorism.

This memorial will be 100 percent privately funded and will not use a single dime of taxpayer money. Most importantly, it will pay tribute to our fallen servicemembers across the country, including the 13 who perished in Afghanistan on August 26. Among the 13 was Iowa native, Cpl Daegan William-Tyler Page, who bravely gave the greatest sacrifice of all.

This memorial is going to be built. It has already become law. It is ready to go. So let's get it built on the National Mall in Washington, DC, where it belongs. It is the least we in Congress can do for the men and women who have given so much.

We have the opportunity to unite around a common cause, while providing a central location for our many veterans and their families affected by the Global War on Terror to reunite and reflect on their loved ones' sacrifices.

This isn't a partisan idea. Earlier this month, the six surviving Secretaries of Defense, spanning Democratic and Republican administrations—Robert Gates, Leon Panetta, Chuck Hagel, Ash Carter, Jim Mattis, and Mark Esper—they all wrote an op-ed in the Washington Post in support of placing the Global War on Terror Memorial on our National Mall.

While nothing will ever restore the lives that we have lost, this memorial would serve as a tribute to those brave men and women and their loved ones

who have sacrificed in defense of our freedom.

For more than 20 years, I had the privilege of serving my State and country in uniform. As a veteran of the Global War on Terror, I know firsthand the sacrifices the millions of brave men and women of our Armed Forces made in this fight against radical extremists.

Like many others, I have risen my right hand and taken that oath voluntarily and without reservation. That is why the effort to build this memorial in its rightful place is a personal one, not just to me but to every servicemember, veteran, surviving family member, and civilian who has been impacted by this fight.

This national memorial will provide all Americans a permanent place of reflection in the heart of our Nation's Capital. It will serve as a permanent commitment to the mothers and fathers, husbands and wives, and children who lost their whole world that this country is forever grateful and in their debt. It will serve as a place of healing for the thousands of veterans still carrying the wounds of war, both seen and unseen.

The National Mall is currently home to the memorials honoring World War II, the Korean war, and the Vietnam war. How could we put the memorial for our Nation's longest war anywhere else?

Mr. President, as in legislative session, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be discharged from further consideration of S. 535 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. MANCHIN. Reserving the right to object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia.

Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, 4 years ago, I was proud to join Senator ERNST in sponsoring legislation to authorize construction on the National Global War on Terrorism Memorial to commemorate and honor the members of the Armed Forces' Global War on Terror.

That bill passed the House and Senate on a voice vote and was signed into law August 2017.

A memorial honoring the men and women of the Armed Forces who served our Nation in the Global War on Terror—our country's longest military conflict—is the least that we can do to recognize their service and sacrifice and especially those who gave their lives in the service of our Nation.

In 2017, I said that it was incredibly important to honor these men and women, and it remains incredibly important today. I want the memorial to be built as quickly as possible. In fact, I think it should be the National Park

Service's highest priority for approving new memorials, but it should be built following the same process that applies to all other memorials and commemorative works.

Since 2003, the Commemorative Works Act has prohibited new memorials in an area called the Reserve, which is essentially the National Mall. Since that time, there have been several proposals to waive the prohibition for new memorials or museums in that area on the Mall, including the World War I Memorial and the Desert Storm and Desert Shield Memorial.

Ultimately, these were located in other high-profile areas in compliance with the Commemorative Works Act. This legislation would override this provision in law to allow the Global War on Terrorism Memorial to be sited on the Reserve.

As chairman of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee, I believe this precedent would reopen the fight to locate other memorials on the National Mall and create more controversy that will ultimately delay the construction of this memorial which is much needed.

While I am a strong supporter of the Global War on Terrorism Memorial, this would be creating an exception to the law for one memorial where others have been turned away and doing so without full committee process.

Our Subcommittee on National Parks, which is chaired by Senator KING from Maine, held a hearing on Senator ERNST's bill on June 23. At that hearing, the Department of Interior testified in opposition to S. 535 as currently drafted.

I would respectfully ask my friend Senator ERNST to withdraw her unanimous consent request to discharge her bill from committee and would commit to holding a markup of the bill so we can consider the options, the impact, and a path forward for this most important memorial.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Does the Senator withdraw her request?

Ms. ERNST. Respectfully, I do not.

Mr. MANCHIN. I respectfully object to the Senator's request but maintain my commitment to working with my friend from Iowa and the families who, rightfully, want to memorialize their loved ones to find a path forward for this important memorial.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

The Senator from Iowa.

Ms. ERNST. Mr. President, I will continue on this path. We, again, passed this bill. It was signed into law in 2017, creating the foundation to establish the Global War on Terrorism Memorial. So that was the first step in a process that has now culminated after 4 years of discussion and work. And I am very hopeful that the committee will go through regular process.

I would encourage the chair to move forward on a markup of the bill and a vote on the bill. If we can receive that markup and vote, then I will stop my

live UCs. But until that point, I think it is imperative that we continue pushing for that regular order.

I feel committed, obviously, to those whom I have served with, the others who have served in the Global War on Terror, their families, the affected communities, our Gold Star families, and others.

This is our Nation's longest running war. It is a war that has affected more than just those servicemembers who set foot in the Middle East. My commitment to those families, those communities, and our country is that we will continue to proceed to make sure that this memorial is placed in prominence on our National Mall.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia.

Mr. MANCHIN. In response to my friend from Iowa, you have my commitment. We will do this markup and get it scheduled as quickly as we possibly can, and we will work through that. We encourage you to be at the markup, if you would like, and speak on it at that time. We will have the park people there and go through this in a very diligent way and hopefully get a result as soon as possible.

Ms. ERNST. Thank you.

I yield the floor.

Mr. MANCHIN. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 169.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Lily Lawrence Batchelder, of Massachusetts, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 169, Lily Lawrence Batchelder, of Massachusetts, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

Charles E. Schumer, Ron Wyden, Martin Heinrich, Alex Padilla, Margaret Wood Hassan, Raphael Warnock, Ben Ray Lujan, Gary C. Peters, Elizabeth Warren, Christopher Murphy, Patrick J. Leahy, Tammy Duckworth, Sheldon Whitehouse, Michael F. Bennet, Tim Kaine, Tammy Baldwin, Cory A. Book-er.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 245.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Jayme Ray White, of Washington, to be a Deputy United States Trade Representative (Western Hemisphere, Europe, the Middle East, Labor, and Environment), with the rank of Ambassador.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 245, Jayme Ray White, of Washington, to be a Deputy United States Trade Representative (Western Hemisphere, Europe, the Middle East, Labor, and Environment), with the rank of Ambassador.

Charles E. Schumer, Catherine Cortez Masto, Gary C. Peters, Elizabeth Warren, Kirsten E. Gillibrand, Sheldon Whitehouse, Jeff Merkley, Christopher A. Coons, Patty Murray, Amy Klobuchar, Richard J. Durbin, Richard Blumenthal, Martin Heinrich, Jon Ossoff, Brian Schatz, Debbie Stabenow.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 341.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Florence Y. Pan, of the District of Columbia, to be United States District Judge for the District of Columbia.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 341, Florence Y. Pan, of the District of Columbia, to be United States District Judge for the District of Columbia.

Charles E. Schumer, Mazie Hirono, Sheldon Whitehouse, Jack Reed, Martin Heinrich, Michael F. Bennet, Jacky Rosen, Richard Blumenthal, Alex Padilla, John Hickenlooper, Kirsten E. Gillibrand, Tina Smith, Tim Kaine, Ben Ray Lujan, Chris Van Hollen, Jeff Merkley.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, finally, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum calls for the cloture motions filed today, September 20, be waived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MISSED VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. BRAUN. Mr. President, to honor the heroism of fallen Corporal Humberto Sanchez, I went to pay my solemn respects on September 13 and 14, 2021, and was not present for votes. Corporal Sanchez was killed in the attack on Kabul airport helping Americans and allies evacuate the country.

Corporal Sanchez is an American hero, and his sacrifice will never be forgotten.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO BILL DUTCHER

• Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, I have the honor of recognizing Bill Dutcher, general manager of MetraPark, for his 40 years of service to the Billings community as he prepares to retire at the end of the year.

Before stepping into the role of general manager, Bill served in a variety of other roles from part time work at the fairgrounds, to maintenance, as well as operations management at MetraPark. Not only has Bill met Presidents and rock stars while on the job, but he has also bedded every horse stall and washed more than 10,000 arena seats. No matter what the job is, Bill always brings the same level of enthusiasm to the task at hand.

Though Bill will be missed by more than 150 MetraPark employees, he will not be a stranger once he retires. There are many upcoming events he looks forward to attending, which will be easily accomplished as the Yellowstone County commissioners presented him with a lifetime pass to every future MetraPark event. Bill has truly created a legacy of customer service within this organization that will be remembered for decades to come.

It is my distinct honor to recognize Bill for his 40 years of service to the people of the Billings community. I have no doubt Bill will find new ways to bring people joy as he enters into this new chapter of life and enjoys time with his wife and two children.●

TRIBUTE TO HUNTER JONES

• Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, I have the honor of recognizing Hunter Jones of Billings for his many years supporting Montana service members deployed overseas.

Hunter is the grandson of a World War I veteran, and the son of a World War II and Korean War veteran. Though not a veteran himself, Hunter was instilled with a driving passion to honor military servicemembers throughout his life. Hunter made his way to Billings, MT, as an educator in 1995 and quickly began a program with his students at Will James Middle School to recognize and honor Montana servicemembers and veterans.

Following the tragic terrorist attacks that occurred on September 11, 2001, Hunter saw the need to support Montanans deployed overseas in the Global War on Terror. He and his students began sending care packages and letters to the men and women fighting to protect our freedoms. For over 19 years, Hunter has diligently kept this up, and now, close to 30 of his former students have been inspired to military service, including a Navy SEAL and

members of all military branches, who have also received care packages from him. Military servicemembers have recognized Hunter's support by sending him American flags flown in countries where they were deployed, along with letters of appreciation. Hunter proudly displays them in his classroom.

It is my distinct honor to recognize Hunter for over 20 years of supporting Montana military servicemembers and for teaching the Treasure State's youth to honor those who have fought for this great Nation. Hunter's patriotism and love for the men and women of our Armed Forces will live on in the generations of Montanans he has taught at Will James Middle School in Billings, MT.●

TRIBUTE TO MARIAM C. NOLAND

• Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, I rise today to honor an accomplished and highly regarded leader of Michigan's philanthropic community, Mariam C. Noland, president of the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan.

Ms. Noland, a resident of Grosse Pointe Farms, MI, has made an immeasurable impact on southeast Michigan, our State, and the entire country during the past 36 years. It is my privilege to recognize her here today and celebrate her upcoming retirement.

Mariam Noland earned her bachelor of science from Case Western Reserve University in 1969, followed by her master of education from Harvard University. During her time at Harvard, Ms. Noland worked on a research project through the Pittsburgh Foundation, another community foundation. This was her first experience in the foundation field, a field in which she would spend almost her entire distinguished career.

In 1975, Ms. Noland began working as an education policy fellow, secretary, and treasurer at the Cleveland Foundation. It was there, she states, that she truly learned the power of community foundations and the power of change. Six years later, she became vice president of the Saint Paul Foundation of Saint Paul, Minnesota.

In 1984, Joseph L. Hudson, Jr., and other civic leaders started the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan with a mission to enhance the quality of life for residents of Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Monroe, Washtenaw, St. Clair, and Livingston Counties. This group of visionaries hired Mariam Noland in 1985 as the foundation's first president, a role in which she has remained to this day.

As a result of Ms. Noland's steadfast leadership and tireless devotion, the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan has grown over the last four decades into one of the 30 largest community foundations in the country. The organization has awarded more than \$1.2 billion in grants, benefiting countless nonprofits and the individuals and families they serve. This past year alone, during the challenging

COVID-19 pandemic, the Community Foundation provided over \$101 million in grants, its largest annual grant total to date.

Ms. Noland has personally raised hundreds of millions of dollars and has initiated many new and innovative programs. Some of the highlights from her career include the GreenWays Initiative that has built interconnected trails throughout southeast Michigan, as well as the New Economy Initiative, the Nation's largest multi-foundation funded collaborative addressing economic development and opportunity. Additionally, Ms. Noland was also essential to the creation and development of the HOPE Fund, which is one of the largest and most effective funds in the Nation at a community foundation addressing needs of the LGBTQ+ community.

Ms. Noland, a creative and effective problem-solver, is also known for the historic role she played during Detroit's bankruptcy. She influenced 14 foundations to collectively donate more than \$366 million, which, when combined with \$350 million in State funds and \$100 million raised by the Detroit Institute of Arts, provided \$816 million to help protect pensions for city workers while at the same time safeguarding the cultural pieces of the art museum.

Ms. Noland's contributions go well beyond her impressive work at the Community Foundation. She generously gives her time and expertise as a member of the boards of trustees for the Detroit Riverfront Conservancy, the Downtown Detroit Partnership, and the Bipartisan Policy Center in Washington, DC. She also previously served as vice chair of the Henry Ford Health System Board of Directors, as well as chair of the Council of Michigan Foundations Board of Trustees.

Ms. Noland's incredible work has been recognized with numerous prestigious awards and honors. In 2009, she received the Eleanor Josaitis Unsung Hero Award. That same year, the Community Foundation established its own Mariam C. Noland Award in her honor to recognize a local nonprofit leader who exemplifies leadership in his or her organization and the broader nonprofit community.

I cannot understate the impact Mariam C. Noland has had on the people of Michigan. She has created influential philanthropic initiatives, promoted positive changes in our communities, and enhanced the lives of countless Michiganders. She leaves a community foundation that now holds more than \$1.1 billion in "community capital" that will benefit future southeast Michigan residents for decades to come. Moreover, she has created a model for charitable giving and foundation management that is unmatched.

Though her leadership at the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan will be sorely missed upon her retirement, her legacy will most certainly endure.

For these reasons, I am grateful for this opportunity to recognize her accomplishments and to extend our collective gratitude on behalf of all who have—and who will—benefit from her efforts.●

TRIBUTE TO MITCHELL WALDMAN

● Mr. WICKER. Mr. President, it is my honor to recognize Mr. Mitchell Waldman for his long and exceptional record of service on the occasion of his retirement at the end of the month. Mr. Waldman has served our Nation for more than 42 years in various national security roles across the executive and legislative branches of government and in the private sector, providing counsel to Senators, Secretaries, CNOs, and CEOs.

For the past decade, Mr. Waldman has served as executive vice president of Government and Customer Relations for Huntington Ingalls Industries, America's largest military shipbuilding company. At Huntington Ingalls, Mr. Waldman has been responsible for leading the company's engagements with the legislative branch, the executive branch, business and trade associations, and think tanks. Before this appointment, Mr. Waldman served as vice president for business development of advanced programs and technology for Northrop Grumman's aerospace systems sector.

Before joining Northrop Grumman, Mr. Waldman served as national security advisor to my good friend, former U.S. Senator for Mississippi Trent Lott, as well as a national security consultant in the office of the Senate majority leader. Mr. Waldman has held a number of executive positions for the U.S. Navy, including Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Ships), Director of Cost Engineering and Industrial Analysis for Naval Sea Systems Command, and Deputy Program Manager for Amphibious Warfare Programs.

Mr. Waldman received a bachelor of science in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Florida and a juris doctor from Catholic University of America's Columbus School of Law. He is also a graduate of Yale University's executive management program and the defense systems management college program managers course. He has been honored with the U.S. Navy Distinguished Civilian Service Award, the State of Mississippi Distinguished Civilian Service Award, and the D.C. City Council of Engineering Societies Architect of the Year award.

Mr. Waldman's contributions also extend to his service on the board of directors for the Shipbuilders Council of America, the National Bureau of Asian Research, the Armed Services YMCA, the Naval Aviation Museum Foundation, and the Naval War College Foundation. Additionally, he is a member of the external advisory board for the University of Florida's Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering.

I would like to express a heartfelt "thank you" to Mr. Waldman for a career marked by the utmost devotion to our country. I would also like to wish him good luck as he begins a new phase in life; may the new journey be as fulfilling as his career has been. It is with sincere respect and kindest regards that I wish Mitch Waldman, his wife Debbie, and his daughter Emily: "Fair winds and following seas."●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Roberts, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

In executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations and withdrawals which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

S. 2765. A bill to provide that Members of Congress may not receive pay after October 1 of any fiscal year in which Congress has not approved a concurrent resolution on the budget and passed the regular appropriations bills.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-1976. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Emamectin benzoate; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 8671-01-OCSP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 13, 2021; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1977. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Florasulam; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 8751-01-OCSP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 13, 2021; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1978. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Boscalid; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 8560-01-OCSP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 13, 2021; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1979. A communication from the Acting Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Acequinocyl; Pesticide Tol-

erances" (FRL No. 8763-01-OCSP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 13, 2021; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1980. A communication from the Acting Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Defensin Proteins Derived from Spinach in Citrus Plants; Temporary Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance" (FRL No. 8908-01-OCSP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 13, 2021; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Ms. SMITH (for herself, Mr. ROUNDS, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. WARREN, Ms. BALDWIN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 2757. A bill to amend the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act to allow the Secretary of Agriculture to enter into self-determination contracts with Indian Tribes and Tribal organizations to carry out supplemental nutritional assistance programs; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. BROWN (for himself and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 2758. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to impose an excise tax on stock buybacks of publicly traded corporations; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SCHATZ (for himself, Ms. ERNST, and Mr. YOUNG):

S. 2759. A bill to restore honor to certain previously discharged members of the Armed Forces; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. PORTMAN (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. DAINES, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. SASSE, and Mr. HOEVEN):

S. 2760. A bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to provide for automatic continuing resolutions; to the Committee on Appropriations.

By Ms. HIRONO:

S. 2761. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to maintain demographic information regarding veterans and publish such information on a website of the Department of Veterans Affairs; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 2762. A bill to amend title III of the Public Health Service Act to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Administrator of the Health Resources and Services Administration, to award grants to eligible entities to carry out construction or modernization projects designed to strengthen and increase capacity within the specialized pediatric health care infrastructure, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. STABENOW (for herself and Mr. PETERS):

S. 2763. A bill to extend the authorization for the MotorCities National Heritage Area in the State of Michigan, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself and Mr. ROMNEY):

S. 2764. A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to make available parental leave benefits to parents following the birth or adoption of a child, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BRAUN:

S. 2765. A bill to provide that Members of Congress may not receive pay after October 1 of any fiscal year in which Congress has not approved a concurrent resolution on the budget and passed the regular appropriations bills; read the first time.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. BENNET, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. CASEY, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. KAINE, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. REED, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. SMITH, Mr. TESTER, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. WYDEN):

S.J. Res. 25. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relating to contributions and expenditures intended to affect elections; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Ms. STABENOW (for herself, Ms. DUCKWORTH, and Mr. PADILLA):

S. Res. 367. A resolution designating September 2021 as "National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. KAINE (for himself and Mr. BURR):

S. Res. 368. A resolution designating September 25, 2021, through October 3, 2021, as "Blue Star Welcome Week"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. HASSAN (for herself, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CASEY, and Ms. COLLINS):

S. Res. 369. A resolution supporting the designation of September 17, 2021, as "National Concussion Awareness Day"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. SMITH):

S. Res. 370. A resolution honoring the Minnesotans who competed for Team USA in the 2020 Tokyo Summer Olympic Games; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. SMITH):

S. Res. 371. A resolution honoring the Minnesotans competing for Team USA in the 2020 Tokyo Summer Paralympic Games; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 507

At the request of Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 507, a bill to increase deployment of electric vehicle charging infrastructure in low-income communities and communities of color, and for other purposes.

S. 535

At the request of Ms. ERNST, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS), the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) and the Senator from

North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 535, a bill to authorize the location of a memorial on the National Mall to commemorate and honor the members of the Armed Forces that served on active duty in support of the Global War on Terrorism, and for other purposes.

S. 586

At the request of Mrs. CAPITO, the names of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) were added as cosponsors of S. 586, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to combat the opioid crisis by promoting access to non-opioid treatments in the hospital outpatient setting.

S. 828

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY), the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 828, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the coverage of marriage and family therapist services and mental health counselor services under part B of the Medicare program, and for other purposes.

S. 1362

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1362, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage under the Medicare program of pharmacist services.

S. 1435

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1435, a bill to amend the Federal Trade Commission Act to prohibit product hopping, and for other purposes.

S. 1450

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1450, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for expanded coverage of services furnished by genetic counselors under part B of the Medicare program, and for other purposes.

S. 1530

At the request of Mr. SANDERS, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1530, a bill to amend the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 and the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to make breakfasts and lunches free for all children, and for other purposes.

S. 1532

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1532, a bill to provide a work opportunity tax credit for military spouses and to provide for flexible spending arrangements for childcare services for uniformed services families.

S. 1584

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1584, a bill to create a 2020 Census Federal Advisory Committee on Transparency and Standards.

S. 1636

At the request of Mr. MARSHALL, the names of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) and the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) were added as cosponsors of S. 1636, a bill to clarify the treatment of 2 or more employers as joint employers under the National Labor Relations Act and the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938.

S. 1670

At the request of Ms. ERNST, the names of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) and the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) were added as cosponsors of S. 1670, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a nonrefundable credit for working family caregivers.

S. 1813

At the request of Mr. COONS, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1813, a bill to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to support research on, and expanded access to, investigational drugs for amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, and for other purposes.

S. 1958

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) were added as cosponsors of S. 1958, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize the program of payments to teaching health centers that operate graduate medical education programs.

S. 1988

At the request of Mr. MANCHIN, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1988, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to protect access to telehealth services under the Medicare program.

S. 2003

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. SASSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2003, a bill to authorize appropriations for the Department of State for fiscal years 2021 through 2023 to provide assistance to El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras through bilateral compacts to increase protection of women and children in their homes and communities and reduce female homicides, domestic violence, and sexual assault.

S. 2011

At the request of Mr. COONS, the names of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY), the Senator

from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2011, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to honor the contributions of all those whose efforts led to the successful development of life saving vaccines to combat the novel coronavirus.

S. 2065

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2065, a bill to amend title XVI of the Social Security Act to update eligibility for the supplemental security income program, and for other purposes.

S. 2230

At the request of Mr. LUJÁN, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2230, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to enhance the carbon oxide sequestration credit.

S. 2256

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2256, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to limit the charitable deduction for certain qualified conservation contributions.

S. 2297

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2297, a bill to improve global health, and for other purposes.

S. 2372

At the request of Mr. HEINRICH, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2372, a bill to amend the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act to make supplemental funds available for management of fish and wildlife species of greatest conservation need as determined by State fish and wildlife agencies, and for other purposes.

S. 2477

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2477, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to divert certain parents of minor children, expectant parents, and other caregivers from incarceration and into comprehensive programs providing resources, services, and training to those individuals and their families.

S. 2590

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2590, a bill to designate an Anomalous Health Incidents Interagency Coordinator to coordinate the interagency investigation of, and response to, anomalous health incidents, and for other purposes.

S. 2637

At the request of Mr. LUJÁN, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) were added as

cosponsors of S. 2637, a bill to amend the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 to require the consideration of a standard requiring electric utilities to offer community solar programs to ratepayers.

S. 2689

At the request of Mr. BURR, the names of the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA), the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) were added as cosponsors of S. 2689, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to ensure that children in foster care who are placed in a qualified residential treatment program are eligible for Medicaid.

S. 2721

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the names of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) and the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) were added as cosponsors of S. 2721, a bill to require the Internal Revenue Service to issue a report on the tax gap, to establish a fellowship program within the Internal Revenue Service to recruit mid-career tax professionals to create and participate in an audit task force, and for other purposes.

S. 2727

At the request of Mr. LANKFORD, the names of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) and the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2727, a bill to provide for a period of continuing appropriations in the event of a lapse in appropriations under the normal appropriations process, and establish procedures and consequences in the event of a failure to enact appropriations.

S. 2729

At the request of Mr. WARNOCK, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) were added as cosponsors of S. 2729, a bill to direct the Federal Communications Commission to establish a program through which eligible individuals may obtain vouchers for the purchase of connected devices, and for other purposes.

S. 2756

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the names of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO), the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT), the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) and the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) were added as cosponsors of S. 2756, a bill to posthumously award a Congressional Gold Medal, in commemoration of the service members who perished as a result of the attack

in Afghanistan on August 26, 2021, during the evacuation of citizens of the United States and Afghan allies at Hamid Karzai International Airport, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 10

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 10, a joint resolution to repeal the authorizations for use of military force against Iraq, and for other purposes.

S. CON. RES. 15

At the request of Ms. ERNST, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 15, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the withdrawal of Armed Forces from Afghanistan does not undermine or diminish the sacrifice, efforts, and accomplishments of the members of the Armed Forces, diplomats, humanitarians, allies, and partners.

S. RES. 334

At the request of Ms. WARREN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 334, a resolution memorializing those impacted by and lost to the COVID-19 virus.

S. RES. 364

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 364, a resolution supporting the designation of September 17, 2021, as "National Physician Suicide Awareness Day" to raise awareness of, and promote a national discussion about, physician suicide and to reduce the stigma of mental health issues.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 367—DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER 2021 AS "NATIONAL OVARIAN CANCER AWARENESS MONTH"

Ms. STABENOW (for herself, Ms. DUCKWORTH, and Mr. PADILLA) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 367

Whereas ovarian cancer is the fifth leading cause of cancer deaths of women in the United States and causes more deaths than any other gynecologic cancer;

Whereas, in the United States, a woman's lifetime risk of being diagnosed with ovarian cancer is approximately 1 in 78;

Whereas, in 2020, the American Cancer Society estimates 21,750 cases of ovarian cancer were newly diagnosed and 13,940 individuals died from the disease in the United States;

Whereas the 5-year survival rate for ovarian cancer is approximately 46.5 percent, and survival rates vary greatly depending on the stage of diagnosis;

Whereas the 5-year survival rate for ovarian cancer is more than 90 percent for individuals diagnosed in early stages;

Whereas, while a mammogram can detect breast cancer and a Pap smear can detect

cervical cancer, there is no reliable early detection test for ovarian cancer;

Whereas, in June 2007, the first national consensus statement on ovarian cancer symptoms was developed to provide consistency in describing symptoms to make it easier for women to learn and remember those symptoms;

Whereas Black women with ovarian cancer are more likely to have late-stage diagnoses, receive lower quality clinical services, and have lower 5-year survival rates than non-Black women;

Whereas women of color, women with low-incomes, and women living in rural areas have more barriers to accessing standard quality of care and are more likely to receive care at a facility that has poorer adherence to treatment guidelines issued by the National Comprehensive Cancer Network;

Whereas too many people remain unaware that the symptoms of ovarian cancer often include bloating, pelvic or abdominal pain, difficulty eating or feeling full quickly, urinary symptoms, and several other vague symptoms that are often easily confused with other diseases;

Whereas improved awareness of the symptoms of ovarian cancer by the public and health care providers can lead to a quicker diagnosis and improved outcomes;

Whereas the lack of an early detection test for ovarian cancer, combined with its vague symptoms, means that approximately 80 percent of cases of ovarian cancer are detected at an advanced stage;

Whereas issues collecting and reporting data related to ovarian cancer risk, treatment, and outcomes are particularly pronounced—especially for underserved communities and marginalized populations—and impede the development of effective policy;

Whereas all women are at risk for ovarian cancer, but approximately 20 percent of women who are diagnosed with ovarian cancer have a hereditary predisposition to ovarian cancer, which places them at even higher risk;

Whereas scientists and physicians have uncovered changes in the BRCA genes that some women inherit from their parents, which may make those women 30 times more likely to develop ovarian cancer;

Whereas the family history of a woman has been found to play an important role in accurately assessing a woman's risk of developing ovarian cancer, and medical experts believe that family history should be taken into consideration during the annual well-woman visit of any woman;

Whereas women who know that they are at high risk of ovarian cancer may undertake prophylactic measures to help reduce the risk of developing the disease;

Whereas guidelines issued by the National Comprehensive Cancer Network and Society of Gynecologic Oncology recommend that all individuals diagnosed with ovarian cancer receive genetic counseling and genetic testing, regardless of their family history;

Whereas studies consistently show that compliance with those guidelines is alarmingly low, with recently published research funded by the National Cancer Institute finding that in 2013 and 2014, only 1/3 of ovarian cancer survivors have undergone such testing;

Whereas, according to a 2016 consensus report by the National Academy of Medicine, “there remain surprising gaps in the fundamental knowledge about and understanding of ovarian cancer” across all aspects of the disease;

Whereas ongoing investments in research, education, and awareness efforts relating to ovarian cancer are critical to closing those

gaps and improving survivorship for women with ovarian cancer;

Whereas, each year during the month of September, Ovarian Cancer Research Alliance and its community partners hold a number of events to increase public awareness of ovarian cancer and its symptoms; and

Whereas September 2021 should be designated as “National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month” to increase public awareness of ovarian cancer: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 2021 as “National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month”; and

(2) supports the goals and ideals of National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month.

SENATE RESOLUTION 368—DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER 25, 2021, THROUGH OCTOBER 3, 2021, AS “BLUE STAR WELCOME WEEK”

Mr. KAINÉ (for himself and Mr. BURR) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 368

Whereas Blue Star Families seeks to empower military families by connecting them with their neighbors, both individuals and organizations, to create vibrant communities of mutual support;

Whereas Blue Star Families annually designates the week beginning the last Saturday in September and concluding 9 days thereafter as “Blue Star Welcome Week”;

Whereas, during Blue Star Welcome Week, the Senate recognizes the 600,000 active duty and transitioning military families who move to new communities each year;

Whereas nearly half of these permanent change of station (PCS) moves occur during the summer;

Whereas only 27 percent of military family respondents to the 2020 Military Family Lifestyle Survey published by Blue Star Families reported that they feel a sense of belonging to their local civilian community; and

Whereas a sense of belonging is essential to the well-being and readiness of military families: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 25, 2021, through October 3, 2021, as “Blue Star Welcome Week”;

(2) expresses gratitude for the sacrifices made by service members, transitioning veterans, and their families;

(3) commits to ensuring that military-connected families feel a strong sense of belonging to their local civilian communities; and

(4) encourages civilians across the United States to welcome military-connected families into their communities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 369—SUPPORTING THE DESIGNATION OF SEPTEMBER 17, 2021, AS “NATIONAL CONCUSSION AWARENESS DAY”

Ms. HASSAN (for herself, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CASEY, and Ms. COLLINS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 369

Whereas mild traumatic brain injury, otherwise known as a “concussion”, is an important health concern for children, teens, and adults;

Whereas, according to information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention—

(1) there are as many as 1,600,000 to 3,800,000 sports-related concussions annually;

(2) as many as 5,300,000 individuals live with a disability because of a traumatic brain injury;

(3) between 2010 and 2016, an estimated 2,000,000 children under age 18 visited an emergency department because of a traumatic brain injury sustained during sports- or recreation-related activities;

(4) an estimated 283,000 children seek care in United States emergency departments each year for a sports- or recreation-related traumatic brain injury, with traumatic brain injuries sustained in contact sports accounting for approximately 45 percent of these visits; and

(5) research suggests that many children with a traumatic brain injury do not seek care in emergency departments or do not seek care at all, resulting in a significant underestimate of prevalence;

Whereas the seriousness of concussions should not be minimized in athletics, and return-to-play and return-to-learn protocols can help ensure recovery;

Whereas concussions can affect physical, mental, and social health, and a greater awareness and understanding of proper diagnosis and management of concussions is critical to improved outcomes; and

Whereas the Senate can raise awareness about concussions among the medical community and the public: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of September 17, 2021, as “National Concussion Awareness Day”;

(2) recognizes that mild traumatic brain injury (“mTBI”), otherwise known as a concussion, is an important health concern;

(3) commends the organizations and individuals that raise awareness about mild traumatic brain injury;

(4) encourages Federal, State, and local policymakers to work together—

(A) to raise awareness about the effects of concussions; and

(B) to improve the understanding of proper diagnosis and management of concussions; and

(5) encourages further research and prevention efforts to ensure that fewer individuals experience the most adverse effects of mild traumatic brain injury.

SENATE RESOLUTION 370—HONORING THE MINNESOTANS WHO COMPETED FOR TEAM USA IN THE 2020 TOKYO SUMMER OLYMPIC GAMES

Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Ms. SMITH) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

S. RES. 370

Whereas 17 Minnesotans qualified to compete for Team USA in the 2020 Tokyo Summer Olympic Games, including: Sunisa (Suni) Lee, Kyra Condie, Lara Dallman-Weiss, Mason Ferlic, Bowe Becker, Regan Smith, Sylvia Fowles, Napheesa Collier, Joe Klecker, Payton Otterdahl, Gable Steveson, Patrick Sunderman, Alise Willoughby, Jordan Thompson, Bethanie Mattek-Sands, Grace McCallum, and Shane Wiskus;

Whereas Suni Lee won the gold medal in the women's gymnastics all-around, helped Team USA win a silver medal in the team final, and won the bronze medal in the uneven bars;

Whereas Grace McCallum helped Team USA win the silver medal in the women's gymnastics team final;

Whereas Neephesa Collier and Sylvia Fowles helped Team USA win the gold medal in women's basketball;

Whereas Jordan Thompson was part of the Team USA women's volleyball team, which won its first-ever gold medal;

Whereas Bowe Becker helped win the gold medal in the men's 4x100 freestyle swimming relay;

Whereas Regan Smith won the silver medal in the 200-meter butterfly, the bronze medal in the 100-meter backstroke, and helped Team USA win the silver medal in the 4x100 meter women's medley relay;

Whereas Gable Steveson won the gold medal in men's freestyle wrestling;

Whereas the athletes trained for many years, demonstrated discipline, exhibited world-class athleticism, and overcame historic obstacles, including the delay and altering of the 2020 Tokyo Summer Olympic Games due to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, to earn the chance to compete for Team USA; and

Whereas team spirit and perseverance were displayed by the athletes throughout the 2020 Tokyo Summer Olympic Games despite the lack of live audiences or cheering fans: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commends the exceptional talent, extraordinary commitment, and undisputed hard work of the 17 Minnesotans who competed for Team USA at the 2020 Tokyo Summer Olympic Games and made the United States proud; and

(2) honors the example of sportsmanship, excellence, and teamwork of those athletes.

SENATE RESOLUTION 371—HONORING THE MINNESOTANS COMPETING FOR TEAM USA IN THE 2020 TOKYO SUMMER PARALYMPIC GAMES

Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Ms. SMITH) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

S. RES. 371

Whereas 15 Minnesotans qualified to compete for Team USA in the 2020 Tokyo Summer Paralympic Games, including—

- (1) Chuck Aoki;
- (2) Josie Aslakson;
- (3) Abby Bauleke;
- (4) Josh Cinnamo;
- (5) Joe Delagrave;
- (6) Ben Goodrich;
- (7) Rose Hollermann;
- (8) Aaron Pike;
- (9) Summer Schmit;
- (10) Ian Seidenfeld;
- (11) Lexi Shifflett;
- (12) Natalie Sims;
- (13) Melissa Stockwell;
- (14) Josh Turek; and
- (15) Mallory Weggemann;

Whereas Mallory Weggemann won the gold medal in the 200-meter individual medley and the 100-meter backstroke, set Paralympic records in both of these events, and won the silver medal in the 50-meter butterfly;

Whereas Ian Seidenfeld won the gold medal in table tennis;

Whereas Lexi Shifflett helped Team USA women's sitting volleyball win gold;

Whereas Josh Turek helped Team USA men's wheelchair basketball earn the gold medal;

Whereas Chuck Aoki and Joe Delagrave helped win the silver medal for Team USA men's wheelchair rugby;

Whereas Ben Goodrich won the silver medal in judo;

Whereas Josh Cinnamo won the bronze medal for Team USA in track and field for shot put;

Whereas Rose Hollermann, Josie Aslakson, and Abby Bauleke helped win the bronze medal for Team USA women's wheelchair basketball;

Whereas athletes trained for many years, exhibited world-class athleticism, and demonstrated fortitude, discipline, and strength to earn the chance to compete for Team USA; and

Whereas athletes overcame historic obstacles because of the COVID-19 pandemic, including the delay of the 2020 Tokyo Summer Paralympic Games, all the while continuing to display team morale and tenacity throughout the competition despite the lack of live audiences or cheering fans: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commends the remarkable skill, steadfast determination, and inspiring hard work of the Minnesotans competing on Team USA at the 2020 Tokyo Summer Paralympic Games; and

(2) honors the example of teamwork, sportsmanship, and merit displayed by the Minnesotans competing on Team USA at the 2020 Tokyo Summer Paralympic Games, who make our United States proud.

MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—S. 2765

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I understand there is a bill at the desk, and I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill by title for the first time.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2765) to provide that Members of Congress may not receive pay after October 1 of any fiscal year in which Congress has not approved a concurrent resolution on the budget and passed the regular appropriations bills.

Mr. SCHUMER. I now ask for a second reading, and in order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The bill will be read for the second time on the next legislative day.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2021

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10:30 a.m., Tuesday, September 21; that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; that upon the conclusion of morning business, the Senate proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the Strickland nomination; further, that the Senate recess following the cloture vote on the Strickland nomination until 2:15 p.m.

to allow for the weekly caucus meetings; that if cloture is invoked, all post-cloture time expire at 2:30 p.m.; finally, that if any nominations are confirmed, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10:30 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:48 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, September 21, 2021, at 10:30 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

ROSTIN BEHNAM, OF MARYLAND, TO BE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION, VICE HEATH P. TARBERT.

ROSTIN BEHNAM, OF MARYLAND, TO BE COMMISSIONER OF THE COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION FOR A TERM EXPIRING JUNE 19, 2026. (REAPPOINTMENT)

CHRISTY GOLDSMITH ROMERO, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A COMMISSIONER OF THE COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE TERM EXPIRING APRIL 13, 2024. VICE HEATH P. TARBERT.

KRISTIN N. JOHNSON, OF MICHIGAN, TO BE A COMMISSIONER OF THE COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION FOR A TERM EXPIRING APRIL 13, 2025. VICE BRIAN D. QUINTENZ, TERM EXPIRED.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

MARGO SCHLANGER, OF MICHIGAN, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE, VICE JOE LEONARD, JR.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

NICKOLAS GUERTIN, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONAL TEST AND EVALUATION, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, VICE ROBERT BEHLER.

JOHN BRADLEY SHERMAN, OF TEXAS, TO BE CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, VICE DANA S. DEASY.

EXPORT-IMPORT BANK OF THE UNITED STATES

RETA JO LEWIS, OF GEORGIA, TO BE PRESIDENT OF THE EXPORT-IMPORT BANK OF THE UNITED STATES FOR A TERM EXPIRING JANUARY 20, 2025. VICE KIMBERLY A. REED, TERM EXPIRED.

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

ALANNA MCCARGO, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE PRESIDENT, GOVERNMENT NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION, VICE THEODORE W. TOZER.

JAMES ARTHUR JEMISON II, OF MICHIGAN, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, VICE ROBERT HUNTER KURTZ.

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

ALVARO M. BEDOYA, OF MARYLAND, TO BE A FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSIONER FOR THE TERM OF SEVEN YEARS FROM SEPTEMBER 26, 2019. VICE ROHIT CHOPRA, TERM EXPIRED.

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

WILLIE L. PHILLIPS, JR., OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION FOR A TERM EXPIRING JUNE 30, 2026. VICE NEIL CHATTERJEE, TERM EXPIRED.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

MARIA LOUISE LAGO, OF NEW YORK, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY OF COMMERCE FOR INTERNATIONAL TRADE, VICE GILBERT B. KAPLAN.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

ROBERT MICHAEL GORDON, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, VICE ELLEN GLONINGER MURRAY.

INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION
AND DEVELOPMENT

ADRIANA DEBORA KUGLER, OF MARYLAND, TO BE UNITED STATES EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT FOR A TERM OF TWO YEARS, VICE JENNIFER D. NORDQUIST.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

THOMAS CARNAHAN, OF MISSOURI, TO BE A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE SEVENTY-SIXTH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS.

SIM FARAR, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE SEVENTY-SIXTH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS.

FRENCH HILL, OF ARKANSAS, TO BE A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE SEVENTY-SIXTH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS.

BARBARA LEE, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE SEVENTY-SIXTH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS.

DEBORAH E. LIPSTADT, OF GEORGIA, TO BE SPECIAL ENVOY TO MONITOR AND COMBAT ANTI-SEMITISM, WITH THE RANK OF AMBASSADOR. (NEW POSITION)

OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

KRISTA ANNE BOYD, OF FLORIDA, TO BE INSPECTOR GENERAL, OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT, VICE PATRICK E. MCFARLAND, RESIGNED.

THE JUDICIARY

LUCY HAERAN KOH, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT, VICE RICHARD A. PAEZ, RETIRING.

GABRIEL P. SANCHEZ, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT, VICE MARSHA L. BERZON, RETIRING.

HOLLY A. THOMAS, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT, VICE WILLIAM A. FLETCHER, RETIRING.

HERNAN D. VERA, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA, VICE MARGARET M. MORROW, RETIRED.

MAAME EWUSI-MENSAH FRIMONG, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA, VICE CHRISTINA A. SNYDER, RETIRED.

JENNIFER L. THURSTON, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA, VICE LAWRENCE JOSEPH O'NEILL, RETIRED.

DAVID HERRERA URIAS, OF NEW MEXICO, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW MEXICO, VICE MARTHA A. VAZQUEZ, RETIRING.

KATHERINE MARIE MENENDEZ, OF MINNESOTA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF MINNESOTA, VICE JOAN E. LANCASTER, RETIRED.

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be brigadier general

COL. JAMES D. BRANTINGHAM

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. JEFFREY C. COGGIN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. XAVIER T. BRUNSON

IN THE SPACE FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES SPACE FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 716:

To be brigadier general

BRIG. GEN. GREGORY J. GAGNON

DISCHARGED NOMINATION

The Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs was discharged from further consideration of the following nomination under the

authority of the order of the Senate of 01/07/2009 and the nomination was placed on the Executive Calendar:

*THOMAS ANDREW MONHEIM, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY, OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE.

*Nominee has committed to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate September 20, 2021:

THE JUDICIARY

VERONICA S. ROSSMAN, OF COLORADO, TO BE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE TENTH CIRCUIT.

WITHDRAWALS

Executive Message transmitted by the President to the Senate on September 20, 2021 withdrawing from further Senate consideration the following nominations:

NAVY NOMINATION OF BRANDON T. SALES, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER, WHICH WAS SENT TO THE SENATE ON JANUARY 6, 2021.

ARMY NOMINATION OF MAJ. GEN. BRIAN J. MENNES, TO BE LIEUTENANT GENERAL, WHICH WAS SENT TO THE SENATE ON JUNE 8, 2021.

ADRIANA DOBRA KUGLER, OF MARYLAND, TO BE UNITED STATES EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT FOR A TERM OF TWO YEARS, VICE JENNIFER D. NORDQUIST, WHICH WAS SENT TO THE SENATE ON AUGUST 9, 2021.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE VALLEJO YACHT CLUB

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 20, 2021

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Vallejo Yacht Club as they celebrate their 121st Annual Great Vallejo Race.

The Vallejo Yacht Club, originally known as the Vallejo Yachting and Rowing Club, was founded in 1900. Twenty-five years later, The Great Vallejo Race originated as a cruise from Berkeley to Vallejo followed by another race back the following day. This race was organized by the Pacific Inter-Club Yacht Association, an organization created to promote and improve communication among yacht clubs, encourage boating safety, and sponsor regattas. Though starting from humble beginnings, this race is now revered as one of the largest inland regattas in the United States, drawing an attendance of nearly 200+ boats from around the Bay Area.

Now with the backing of the Yacht Racing Association, an organization formed to support competitive racing in Northern California and the leadership of the Vallejo Yacht Club, this two-day race traditionally marks the official opening of the San Francisco Bay racing season. The challenging and scenic course of this race draws hundreds of community members while showcasing the beauty of the Vallejo Waterfront to all participants and attendees.

Among the Vallejo Yacht Club's vast contributions to the community is the Learn-to-Sail program which is open to both youth and adults. This popular program invites all levels of expertise to participate in sailing and encourages aspiring sailors to engage in meaningful events with the community. Their boating safety programs along with their local memberships seek to build a club that is diverse and energetic. The Vallejo Yacht Club is both an exceptional example of what it means to be a generous and altruistic organization and a role model to many aspiring sailors and seasoned professionals.

Madam Speaker, it is no doubt that the Vallejo Yacht Club's achievements and contributions will leave a profound impact on sailors and members for generations to come. It is fitting and proper that we honor them here today.

HONORING SHERIFF DANIEL J. BUENO

HON. FILEMON VELA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 20, 2021

Mr. VELA. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to one of the most influential individuals in Jim Wells County, Sheriff Daniel J. Bueno.

Sheriff Bueno has dedicated his life to protecting and serving the people of his county, and its surrounding areas. His innovation and passion for his work will leave a lasting impact on his community.

Sheriff Bueno was born on December 10, 1955 in Alice, Texas, and graduated from Ben Bolt High School in 1974. In his early career, he worked as an X-Ray Technician at the local Alice Hospital. There, he witnessed the tragedies of child abuse, domestic violence, and substance abuse. Seeing these issues drove the Sheriff to find solutions to this rising problem in the community.

Sheriff Bueno began working for the Alice Police Department in 1977 and gradually climbed the ranks, becoming the Chief of Police in 1999. Sheriff Bueno is one of the longest serving police chiefs in South Texas.

Sheriff Bueno is the son of Army Veteran Guillermo Bueno and Elva Perez Bueno. Lessons in discipline and the importance of family, instilled in him as a child, led him to become involved in the Community Action and Outreach of South Texas, where he served as President and a longstanding board member. In this role, the Sheriff prioritized speaking to South Texas families about domestic violence and child abuse prevention programs.

The Sheriff was also a part of the Los Ninos Program, a group that provides educational programs to parents from the City of Alice and across the Rio Grande Valley. Sheriff Bueno believes the home is the foundation for a child's success.

The Sheriff's mother, Elva, also influenced his career path. His mother was heavily involved with the education system in South Texas. This is where he found his passion for the betterment of local education. He served as President of the Mexican American School Board Association of Texas, and the Ben-Bolt Palito Blanco Independent School District Board of Trustees.

In 2017, Sheriff Bueno created the Loose Livestock and Theft Prevention Program. Farmers and ranchers fill out a questionnaire with information pertaining to their land and should anything happen, local law enforcement officials can notify the owner and aid in helping them resolve the issue. Since its creation, the program has grown to over 350 participants and has helped recover over a million dollars in missing property. Sheriffs from all over the state have looked to Jim Wells County as a model for implementing similar programs. Sheriff Bueno and the Loose Livestock and Theft Prevention Program have given residents in these rural areas peace of mind knowing that their law enforcement officials have the tools in place to protect them.

Sheriff Daniel J. Bueno is an inspiration for all who know him. He continues to foster justice, protect the people of Jim Wells County, and promote safety for those living in rural communities. It is clear that Sheriff Bueno is deeply invested in the people of South Texas and we cannot thank him enough for his service.

IN MEMORY OF THE HONORABLE MARY ALICE BUCKNER

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 20, 2021

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, it is with a heavy heart and solemn remembrance that I rise today to pay tribute to an extraordinary public servant, mentor to many, trailblazer, mother, and dear friend of long-standing, Judge Mary Alice Buckner. Sadly, Judge Buckner transitioned on Friday, September 10, 2021. A celebration of her life was held at 11:00 a.m., Saturday, September 18, 2021, at the Mount Pilgrim Baptist Church, 4400 Old Cusseta Road in Columbus, Georgia.

Mary Alice Buckner was born in Columbus, Georgia on March 3, 1948, as the fifth of nine children to the late Reverend Otis Buckner and Mrs. Beatrice Rogers Buckner. She was educated in the Muscogee County public schools, graduating with honors in 1966, from George Washington Carver High School. She decided early what career she would pursue, choosing law because she wanted her voice to be heard and to make a difference in society. Mary enrolled at Mercer University in Macon, Georgia, where she received a Bachelor of Science degree in History and Political Science in 1970. She was accepted into Emory Law School, and after completing her first year, transferred to Mercer University, where in 1973 she received a Juris Doctorate from the Walter F. George School of Law, becoming the first African American female to graduate from Mercer Law School.

Mary Buckner accepted Christ at an early age becoming a lifelong member of Mount Pilgrim Baptist Church, serving over the years in the Sanctuary Choir, the Pulpit Search Committee, the Welcome Circle Mission, the Mount Pilgrim Legal Counsel Board and President of the Matrons 2. In 1975, Mary Buckner joined my law firm, Bishop and Hudlin. In 1978, the firm changed to Bishop and Buckner, P.C., and she became a full partner specializing in real estate, probate, bankruptcy, and domestic relations. We continued our practice up through 1992 when I was elected to Congress at which time, she formed her own private practice. Madam Speaker, Mary Buckner was a pioneer, paving the way for women and minorities. In February of 1984, she became the first African American woman appointed Judge Pro Tem of the Columbus Recorder's Court, and in 1991, she was appointed by the City Council to serve full time, which she did with distinction until her retirement in 2019.

Judge Buckner made significant contributions to the community through her involvement and volunteer work in organizations such as the Columbus Community Center, Past President of the Columbus Technical College Board, member and Past President of the Georgia Legal Services Board, member of the A.J. McClung YMCA Board, and a member of

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Her concern for others, especially children, led her to become a foster parent. Judge Buckner's bar affiliations include memberships in the State Bar of Georgia, American Bar Association, National Bar Association, Columbus Bar Association, and the Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys.

Among her numerous honors and awards are: The Tony Baldwin Trailblazer Award presented by the Black Law Students Association Alumni Council of Mercer University; The Barbara A. Harris Award for Service to the Community; and the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Gamma Tau Omega Chapter 2009 Rosa Parks Women of Courage Honoree. She always advised others and especially young people that a person can achieve any goal with hard work, dedication, and commitment. She continued to make strides and create paths for diversity in the legal profession and wanted her legacy to show that she was fair yet compassionate on the bench. She knew that she had to follow the law but at the same time show empathy and concern for the wellbeing of all.

Judge Buckner accomplished much throughout her life, but none of this would have been possible without her enduring faith in God, the love and nurture of her parents, siblings, children, Jontell and Jackie, as well as her vast extended family, friends, and associates, all of whom will miss her deeply.

On a personal note, I have known Judge Buckner as "Mary B." since 1970, when I met her at Emory Law School. She and her family have inspired me and countless others. Not only was she my law partner, but she was my sister and trusted friend. Her friendship and support over the years have contributed mightily to my professional and political success, and I will be forever grateful that she has been a part of my life.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues in the House of Representatives join my wife, Vivian, and me, along with the more than 730,000 residents of the Second Congressional District of Georgia in paying tribute to the Honorable Mary Alice Buckner for her service to humankind and in extending our deepest condolences to her family, friends, and all those who mourn her loss. Moreover, we pray that we will all be consoled and comforted by an abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks, and months ahead.

HONORING MRS. SHIRLEY FAYE
EDWARDS FRENCH

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 20, 2021

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the legacy and service of a remarkable leader, Mrs. Shirley Faye Edwards French.

Shirley Faye Edwards was born on October 13, 1955 to the late Harold Edwards and Cora Burrell Walker. Born and raised in Marks, Mississippi, Shirley was a surprising addition to the family, coming 11 years after her mother's then youngest child.

Throughout her educational journey, Shirley made lifelong connections. Her third-grade teacher, Hattie Causey Purdy, became her

godmother, and mentored Shirley into adulthood. In 1973, Shirley graduated from Quitman County High School and matriculated to Northwest Mississippi Community College (NWCC). From NWCC, Shirley transferred to the University of Mississippi where she earned her Bachelor of Social Work in 1977.

On May 21, 1983, Shirley united in Holy Matrimony to Willie French, Jr. They are the proud parents of one daughter, Whitney Sade' French.

Valley Queen Missionary Baptist Church gave Shirley her spiritual foundation as well as a knack for community outreach. At Valley Queen, Shirley was active in Sunday School as the recording secretary. She served on the Board of Christian Education, which not only provided guidance and planning around Sunday School and Vacation Bible School, but also encouraged and awarded academic achievements. Shirley has been a lifelong member of Valley Queen with the exception of three years where she was a member of College Hill Missionary Baptist Church in Jackson, Mississippi. She currently serves as the church's announcing clerk.

Shirley has always been known for her outgoing personality and her gift of gab. She will talk to anyone about almost anything. This would have been a perfect skillset for her original dream job, a television broadcast journalist. However, plans changed and Shirley became a social worker. Shirley has used her voice to initiate positive changes in the lives of her clients and the communities she has served over the past 44 years.

Shirley has a legacy of "firsts" throughout her career. Shirley was the first Social Worker/Community Engagement Coordinator for Aaron E. Henry Community Health Services Center, Inc. She helped plan and implement Jackson Police Department's Domestic Violence Case Management Program. Shirley was the first Director of the Quitman County Development Organization daycare center, and she was the first Project Director for the original Delta Futures Healthy Start Initiative, now known as Delta HealthPartners. After serving as a "first" in many organizations, Shirley spent time in program administration during her tenure at Youth Opportunities Unlimited, Inc. The program she is most known for during her time at Y.O.U. was M.A.D.A.M.E. Butterfly. While at Y.O.U., Shirley decided to further her education and earned her Master of Social Work, which she received in 2016. Currently, Shirley serves as a Social Work Case Manager for Delta HealthPartners Healthy Start Initiative under the auspices of Tougaloo College.

In addition to giving back to the community through her church and career, Shirley shares her gifts and knowledge with others on a regular basis. Shirley is well known for serving as Mistress of Ceremony (program guide) for many church programs and funerals in the community. She has worked behind the scenes to help plan community programs, birthday parties, and retirement celebrations. She offers her skills in critiquing to give valuable feedback on documents and to help clarify and expand ideas. Her networking is unmatched and she is never afraid to make connections or requests that will help those around her reach their goals.

Shirley makes sure those around her know that she is thinking about them and she cares. Shirley will stop her car and speak to those

whom she once taught in Sunday School, former program participants, and former neighbors. She is also one to strike up a conversation in the grocery store or at the gas station. In addition to asking about how the person and their family and friends are doing, she will often give a history lesson on their family or the community. More importantly, Shirley reminds people of goals they have shared with her, positive attributes she's noticed about them, and offers words of encouragement. Much like her mother, she has a phone network of friends and family members she checks in with on a regular basis and she is very adamant about recognizing and celebrating birthdays, holidays, accomplishments, and other special occasions.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Shirley Faye Edwards French for her dedication in serving her community.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE ARGYLE
HIGH SCHOOL BOYS' BASKET-
BALL TEAM

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 20, 2021

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Argyle High School Boys' Basketball Team for their commendable victory at the Division 4A state championship. The Argyle Eagles, through their laudable dedication and perseverance, qualified to compete in their UIL conference's state championship in March 2021. With their impressive performance at the final match against Huffman Hargrave High School at the Alamodome in San Antonio, Texas, the team secured the state title for the second time in its history.

Led by Head Basketball Coach Russell Perkins and MVP Skylar McCurry, the Eagles' near perfect 29-1 game season culminated in their notable state victory. It is my pleasure to congratulate them on their stellar repeat championship.

The Argyle High School Boys' Basketball team exhibited remarkable teamwork, sportsmanship and camaraderie amidst the challenges brought about by a challenging year. I applaud each player, coach, and coordinator for their exemplary efforts and congratulate them for attaining their goals in the 2020-2021 basketball season. I wish every one of them continued success in their future athletic, educational and professional endeavors.

SHIRLEY ANN JOHNSON

HON. MARC A. VEASEY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 20, 2021

Mr. VEASEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Shirley Ann Johnson, a caring wife, mother, grandmother, greatgrandmother, godmother, sister, aunt, and friend.

Shirley graduated from Booker T. High School in Norfolk, VA, and went on to marry the love of her life, Rolland L. Johnson, Sr. They had two children, Rolland L. Johnson,

Jr., and Nicole D. Collier who affectionately called her Momma. They moved to Northern Virginia where they settled their family in Dale City.

Shirley's strong faith led them to Little Union Baptist Church in Dumfries, VA. There, she was an integral part of the Children's Ministry and quickly became a beloved favorite of the local children. Shirley loved to play softball and volleyball and encouraged her children to enjoy sports as well.

Shirley and Rolland Sr.'s children supplied them with 9 grandchildren who all referred to Shirley as Nana. They became the object of her affection and often the grandchildren would be found at Nana's while she whipped up her famous oatmeal cookies or delicious macaroni and cheese. Always generous with her time, Shirley could be seen shuffling the grandchildren from place to place and she was always present for pivotal moments in their life. The close bond that they shared did not falter when they teased that Nana had "no filter" later in life, when she shared her opinion about their choice of clothes or hair style.

Shirley's faith was only strengthened when she was diagnosed with cancer in 2011, with a 25 percent chance to live. Arising from the debilitating treatment, she even surprised medical professionals with her amazing courage, faith, and strength.

However, as the years went by, the remnants of chemotherapy and twice a day radiation took a toll on her body. Gradually losing strength but always maintaining her sharp mind, her beloved husband took on the task of giving her the best love and attentive care only he could provide. Cameron, her granddaughter spent countless days and hours assisting Nana towards the end of her life and was always able to bring a smile to her face or make her laugh even when the days were long and hard.

On August 29, 2021, phrases like "please don't go Momma," or "today was not your day, Nana" were spoken but God had a different plan and called her home to Glory. She is now reunited with her parents Helen and Thomas Joyner, her sisters Gladys, Mary, and Willie Mae, her brothers Walter, Lewis and Donald and other loving family members.

Shirley leaves behind a legacy of love and precious memories to be cherished by her relatives, friends, and community. Shirley's love and unwavering commitment to faith and family will be deeply missed by our Fort Worth community.

IN RECOGNITION OF OLYMPIC
MEDALIST BUBBA STARLING

HON. SHARICE DAVIDS

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 20, 2021

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Bubba Starling for earning a silver medal as part of the United States national baseball team in the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games. With every inning, he demonstrated his determination, passion, and love of baseball. I am proud to say that a local Kansan was a part of this very special team.

Mr. Starling began his athletic career in Gardner, Kansas as a multi-sport standout

athlete. Through baseball, he found his professional calling and, after being ranked in 2011 as the number 1 baseball recruit in the nation, was selected fifth overall in the Major League Baseball draft by his hometown team, the Kansas City Royals.

Given Mr. Starling's history of athletic achievement, it is no surprise that he would excel on the world's biggest stage as a part of the United States Olympic baseball team. Considering the special circumstances of these Olympics, it is even more impressive how Mr. Starling and his teammates rose to win the silver medal. Their perseverance through the pandemic was a beacon of hope in difficult times for our country and the world. I commend their resilience and demonstration of athletic excellence.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating Bubba Starling on his silver medal in the 2021 Tokyo Olympic Games.

HONORING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY
OF MR. PAUL CATALANO

HON. CHRIS JACOBS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 20, 2021

Mr. JACOBS of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate and honor the 100th birthday of Mr. Paul Catalano.

Mr. Catalano is a proud lifelong Western New York resident. He was born and raised in Buffalo, New York, where he resided for most of his life.

Mr. Catalano is a member of the Greatest Generation and fought for our country in World War II, serving in the U.S. Army from 1942 until 1944 when he was honorably discharged as a Private First Class. After the war, he continued his service to our country as a Lieutenant in the National Guard. He also had a long and productive career in the Buffalo banking and retail industries and retired in 1991 from Riverside Credit Union.

Mr. Catalano and his late wife, Theresa, were happily married for 66 years. Mr. Catalano is the proud patriarch of his large family consisting of 3 children, 6 grandchildren, and 8 great-grandchildren.

Mr. Catalano is proud of his Italian heritage, as demonstrated by his membership in the Federation of Italian American Societies of Western New York. He served as treasurer for the Federation for several decades, until retiring at the age of 98.

Mr. Catalano is also a lifelong New York Yankees fan and was privileged to see them play in his hometown of Buffalo at the age of 99.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring Mr. Paul Catalano for his service to our country and in celebration of his 100th birthday.

CELEBRATING THE 150TH CHURCH
ANNIVERSARY OF ZION TRAVELERS
CHURCH

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 20, 2021

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the legacy and

service of a remarkable church, Greater Zion Travelers M.B. Church.

Zion Traveler Church was organized on the 31st of July 1871 by Reverend Albert Young. Zion Travelers started out with just 30 members and since its founding has only had 13 Pastors: Rev. E.D. Jones, Rev. S.S. Butler, Rev. A.R. Tillman, Rev. J. West, Rev. Hue White, Rev. Henderson, Rev. Albert (Abe) Richie, Rev. C.J. Stevenson, Rev. U.E. Jones, Rev. C.H. Lowe, Rev. Willie Lewis, and Rev. Casey Fisher.

Rev. Lewis was elected as pastor in February 1967. One year into his stewardship, the congregation built a brick building with central heat, central air, two restrooms, running water, and a baptismal pool. This new building symbolized new beginnings for the church and thus led to its renaming: Greater Zion Travelers M.B. Church. Officers who served under him were Bro. Eugene Snow, Bro. Ivory Smith, Brother Hubert Smith, Bro. Sylvester Fields, Bro. Eddie Cooper, Bro. Louis McGriggs, and Bro. Talmadge Ross. Later, he added, Bro. Excell Snow, Bro. Robert Marbra, Bro. Upson, Bro. Claude Smith, Bro. James Simon, and Bro. Demell McGriggs. Trustees: Sis. Willie M. Callahan and Bro. C.P. Lyons.

The members were so dedicated that they paid the mortgage off in only 10 years. They continued to build upon that success by purchasing an organ, new pews with cushion seats, piano, bulletin board, desk, and chairs. Greater Zion was the only church at this time that had an asphalt parking lot. Rev. Lewis became Pastor Emeritus in May 2013. He died October 10, 2013, as the longest serving pastor of Greater Zion with 46 years.

Rev. Fisher, the son of Sharkey and the Late Katie Fisher, was elected pastor of Greater Zion May 2013. Rev. Fisher was reared in this church and brought excitement with his selection. He has continued the legacy of Greater Zion through area beautification, (installing the embossed name on the church, added three crosses at the entrance of the church), building renovations (removed carpet and replaced with treated concrete flooring, replaced carpet in the choir loft, purchased new furniture for the quiet room, Pastor's office, business office, and fellowship hall) and modernization. In honor of Reverend Lewis, Pastor Fisher dedicated the rear church entrance as the Willie Lewis Lane. He instituted the Church's first and only motto: "The Church on the Corner where Christ is the Center".

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Greater Zion has been a leader in providing much needed food and cleaning supplies to the community. In May 2020, Greater Zion partnered with local, county, and state elected officials to conduct Operation Give Back-Utica. Over 300 families were blessed. During the historic ice storm of 2021, Rev. Fisher and his members coordinated with State Representative Stephanie Foster for water distribution for the community. Six pallets (504 cases) of water were distributed.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the legacy, and service of Greater Zion Travelers M.B. Church.

HONORING THE LIFE OF SENATOR
DAN SWECKER

HON. JAIME HERRERA BEUTLER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 20, 2021

Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the life of Senator Dan Swecker. I had the distinct privilege of serving with Dan in the Washington State Legislature and I remain incredibly grateful for his commitment to his country, his family and the communities of Southwest Washington.

While many individuals in our region came to know Dan as a long-time elected official, his service to our nation began much earlier in life. A proud Army veteran, Dan celebrated his 21st birthday while on a combat tour in Vietnam, where he sustained injuries and for his sacrifice earned the distinguished Purple Heart.

It would be incomplete to talk about Dan's public service without mentioning that which provided him consistent strength throughout his life, his Christian faith. Dan's faith led him to become a founding member of the Centralia Christian School Foundation. It was this faith that led to a reputation as a man who would stand by his morals, even when that was not the easy thing to do.

In so many ways, Dan personified a model community member. He was a kind, and humble leader, fueled by a desire to serve his neighbors and support his community. Southwest Washington was lucky to have a leader like Dan as a part of our community.

Dan will be dearly missed by his family and many friends, and my thoughts and prayers remain with his loved ones during this difficult time.

IN HONOR OF AMERICAN LIBRARY
ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT JU-
LIUS JEFFERSON

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 20, 2021

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Julius C. Jefferson, Jr., for his service this past year as the national president of the American Library Association (ALA). A fourth-generation native of Washington, D.C., Julius received his bachelor's degree in history from Howard University and his master's degree in library science from the University of Maryland. As a librarian, Mr. Jefferson has spent his career committed to advocacy, information policy, diversity, equity and inclusion and professional and leadership development. In recognition of his leadership and dedication to librarianship, the members of the ALA elected Mr. Jefferson to be their 2020–2021 president.

Like so many of us, libraries have had to adapt to changing circumstances during the pandemic, and Julius provided extraordinary leadership throughout this time. Mr. Jefferson began his term as ALA president with a virtual tour of 12 libraries. The "Holding Space" tour is what he called a series of virtual conversations that highlighted the innovation and im-

pact of a diverse range of libraries around the nation. The "Holding Space" tour engaged stakeholders, including elected officials at every level of government, to advocate for libraries and the communities they serve.

I note that many of us in Congress benefit directly from the work of Mr. Jefferson, who serves as a section head of the Congressional Research Service at the Library of Congress. Mr. Jefferson has also served as president of the national Freedom to Read Foundation and of the Washington, D.C. Library Association. As a member of several boards, including the Black Caucus of the American Library Association, Mr. Jefferson has worked to diversify the profession of librarianship and elevate the principles of diversity, equity and inclusion.

Once again, I want to congratulate Julius Jefferson on his term as President of the American Library Association.

TRIBUTE IN MEMORY OF CARTER
CONLEY

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 20, 2021

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the memory of Captain Carter Conley, founding member and leader of the Magoffin County Rescue Squad in Salyersville, Kentucky where he dedicated nearly 50 years to serving and protecting the community he loved.

Carter made a decision immediately after graduating from the University of Kentucky, nearly five decades ago, to return home to use his bachelor's degree in Early Education, where he would raise a wonderful family and make an impact on his small hometown by also pursuing his dream of becoming a firefighter and certified EMT. Hard work was never a foreign term to Carter—he lived and breathed it, from working his way through college, to uniting a group of community leaders to form the Magoffin County Rescue Squad in 1974. The squad started off with 10 members, \$100.00, and the mountain ingenuity it takes to raise enough money to purchase and refurbish an old bread truck and two old boats from the Jenny Wiley State Park for the rescue squad's first fleet. Thanks to coal severance dollars and the support of the local fiscal court, the rescue squad began to grow, and became essential to emergency response during the flood of 1978. Carter and the squad ramped up fundraising efforts over the years, taking their pleas to the local newspaper, the radio station, and eventually a live televised auction. As a direct result of their tireless efforts, the people of Magoffin County are safer today than ever before.

In addition to his volunteer work with the Magoffin County Rescue Squad, he worked at Mountain Comprehensive Care; he served as an Assistant Fire Chief 1982 to 1985; he was a Level 1 Fire instructor through the Kentucky Fire Commission; and worked at Big Sandy Area Development District as a case manager in aging services for over 15 years. Carter's impact on Magoffin County is widespread and deeply rooted.

As we survey the impact of COVID-19 in our communities, we must look beyond the statistics and see the lives of beloved individ-

uals like Captain Carter Conley, who lost an unpredictable battle, despite his efforts to save others from the same deadly virus.

My wife, Cynthia, and I extend our deepest heartfelt condolences to his wife, Vivian and the entire Conley family. Capt. Conley was a true hometown hero, and although his watch is finally over, I am confident that his great host of family and friends will continue to keep his memory alive.

DEDICATING THE MICHAEL J.
LYNCH MEMORIAL GARDEN

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 20, 2021

Mr. JORDAN. Madam Speaker, I am honored to commend to the House the memory of Special Agent Michael J. Lynch of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Special Agent Lynch was killed in the line of duty in Ohio nearly four decades ago.

Michael Lynch was raised in St. Marys, Ohio. An Air Force veteran of the Vietnam War, where he served as a C-130 loadmaster, he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for successfully completing a critical resupply mission over Khe Sanh in February of 1968.

Special Agent Lynch joined the FBI in 1976, assigned first to the Indianapolis division and later to Chicago, where he was part of the SWAT team. On December 16, 1982, he and three other agents lost their lives in an airplane accident while investigating a bank fraud and embezzlement case near Cincinnati.

Tomorrow, at a site just a few blocks away from his childhood home, the Michael J. Lynch Memorial Garden will be dedicated in St. Marys. On behalf of the people of Ohio's Fourth Congressional District, I offer my condolences to his family, friends, and FBI colleagues as they gather to celebrate his selfless service to our nation. I am grateful to the men and women of the FBI for pursuing this honor in tribute to their fallen comrade and thank the leaders and residents of St. Marys for making it a reality.

IN MEMORY OF EVERETT MAYOR
BOB ANDERSON

HON. RICK LARSEN

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 20, 2021

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the life and distinguished career of Everett Mayor Robert "Bob" Carl Anderson, the city's first mayor under its modern charter, who passed away on July 8, 2021.

Mayor Anderson was instrumental in establishing the Boeing 747 "Jumbo Jet" plant at Everett's Paine Field in the late-1960s, which has had a lasting impact on the local economy for 50 years.

Bob Anderson was born on July 11, 1929, in Portland, Oregon to Carl John Anderson and Helen Anderson. He spent most of his childhood in Seattle before later moving to Everett.

He graduated from Roosevelt High School in Seattle and the University of Washington,

where he met his wife, Dona. Bob and Dona were married in 1950 and raised four children in Everett.

Bob served in the Navy for six years during the Korean War.

He was elected Mayor of Everett in 1968 and served until he became an executive of the Olympic Bank in 1977.

In 1978, he became the director of the Washington State Department of Commerce and Economic Development.

He founded the Washington State China Relations Council where he served as president, director and senior advisor.

I would like to honor the life of Mayor Bob Anderson, his service to our country and his important contributions to the development of Everett and the State of Washington.

HONORING EDNA JOLLEY COOPER

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 20, 2021

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable public servant Mrs. Edna "Mickey" Jolley Cooper.

Mrs. Cooper was born on December 11, 1944, one of the most wonderful of Angels entered into this world, born to Mr. Frank and Marie King Jolley. This Angel who walked, talked, and loved so sweetly was Edna Jolley, known affectionately to all as "Mickey."

Mrs. Cooper was raised in a Christian household and grew up among family in Pelahatchie, Mississippi, where she attended school until high school graduation. She would go on to enroll at Jackson State College, now known as Jackson State University, where she excelled completing three degrees: Bachelor of Science, Master of Education and Specialist.

It was also at Jackson State that she met the love of her life, Myram E. Cooper whom she wed in 1965. They were joined at the hip living a complete and full life as they raised their sons, Keith and Montrel.

Professionally, Mrs. Cooper was well respected among her peers and was a dedicated educator for more than fifty years. Her loving, kind spirit and commitment to education touched and influenced the lives of children throughout the state of Mississippi. She began her teaching career at Clarksdale Elementary. As her career progressed, she taught at Ridgeland Elementary School, Lee Elementary School and Wilkins Elementary where she eventually retired.

Mrs. Cooper dedicated her life to Christ at an early age in her youth. She loved the Lord with all of her heart and was a devoted and active member of Lynch Street CME. She was also a member of many civic organizations including the National Council of Negro Women.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the late Edna Jolley Cooper for her dedication to serving her community.

HONORING THE SEVEN INVENTORS INDUCTED TO THE FLORIDA INVENTORS HALL OF FAME 2021

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 20, 2021

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the seven inventors who have been selected as the 2021 Inductees of the Florida Inventors Hall of Fame. These inventors were nominated by their peers nationwide and have undergone the review of the Florida Inventors Hall of Fame Selection Committee. Moreover, their innovations have been identified as significantly impacting the quality of life, economic development, and welfare of their communities, the residents of Florida, and the United States.

The Florida Inventors Hall of Fame was founded in 2013 at the University of South Florida in Tampa, Florida. It was recognized by the Florida Senate as Senate Resolution 1756, which was adopted on April 30, 2014. Its mission is to encourage individuals of all backgrounds to strive toward the betterment of Florida and society through groundbreaking innovation by celebrating the incredible scientific work that has been accomplished by Floridians.

Nomination to the Florida Inventors Hall of Fame is open to all Florida inventors (living or deceased) who are or have been residents of Florida. The nominee must be a named inventor on a patent issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office. The impact of the inventor and his or her invention should be significant to society, and the invention should have been commercialized, utilized, or led to important innovations.

The 2021 Inductees of the Florida Inventors Hall of Fame are:

Norma Alcantar: University of South Florida Professor of Chemical, Biomedical & Materials Engineering, who is recognized for pioneering advances in natural technologies to clean and purify contaminated water; as well as developing novel therapies for Alzheimer's and cancer treatment; new sustainable soil systems; remediation of ocean oil spills; and creating novel filtration technologies for aquaculture systems.

Mark Dean: University of Tennessee Professor Emeritus at the Tickle College of Engineering, former IBM Chief Technology Officer of the Middle East and Africa, who is recognized for revolutionizing personal computer technologies as one of the original inventors of the Industry Standard Architecture "bus"; as well as inventor on three of the nine patents for the original IBM PC; and leader of the team that developed the one-gigahertz processor chip.

Roberta Goode: Founder and President of Goode Compliance International, LLC. Adjunct Faculty Member at University of Miami and George Washington University, who is recognized for breakthrough patents in hemostasis valve designs for vascular catheters that have significantly advanced the field of minimally-invasive cardiac surgeries and diagnostic procedures.

Dean Kamen: President of DEKA Research and Development and the Founder of FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology), who is recognized for sus-

tained cutting-edge innovations across multiple industries that have advanced and benefited society, including: AutoSyringe; HomeChoice for in-home dialysis; UVAR XTS System for treatment of T-Cell lymphoma; the Hydrotex surgical irrigation pump; the iBOT mobility device; and the Segway.

Susann Keohane: IBM Innovation Leader for Healthy Aging and Emerging AI Products and IBM Master Inventor, who is recognized for groundbreaking inventions in Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning and the Internet of Things that have transformed analytics and machine learning techniques and significantly improved the quality of life for people with disabilities and the aging population.

David Kotick: Senior Science Technical Manager for LVC Simulation and Training at the Naval Air Warfare Center Training Systems Division, who is recognized for seminal innovations integrating digital communications across Live Virtual Constructive training environments that advanced simulated training for the U.S. military which benefited overall readiness.

Rajiv Singh: Vice President of Entegris, Inc. and Professor Emeritus at the University of Florida Department of Materials Science and Engineering, who is recognized for breakthroughs in advanced semiconductor processing of next generation materials, including chemical mechanical polishing for mechanically hard advanced electronic materials.

Innovation and invention are the building blocks of our nation. I applaud these highly accomplished individuals and the organizations that support them in their quest to change the world in ways that truly benefit humanity. It is because of the perseverance of these inventors that future generations are encouraged to reach beyond their limits and push the boundaries of innovation.

HONORING THE WORLD WAR II, KOREAN WAR, AND VIETNAM WAR VETERANS OF ILLINOIS

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 20, 2021

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the World War II, Korean War, and Vietnam War Veterans who traveled to Washington, D.C. on August 18, 2021 with Honor Flight Chicago, a program that provides World War II, Korean War, and Vietnam War veterans the opportunity to visit their memorials on The National Mall in Washington, D.C. These memorials were built to honor their courage and service to their country.

The American Veteran is one of our greatest treasures. The Soldiers, Airmen, Sailors, Marines, and Coast Guardsmen who traveled here on August 18th answered our nation's call to service during one of its greatest times of need. From the European Campaign to the Pacific Asian Theatre to the African Theater, these brave Americans risked life and limb, gave service and sacrificed much, all while embodying what it is to be a hero. We owe them more gratitude than can ever be expressed.

I welcomed these brave veterans to Washington and to their memorials. I am proud to include in the RECORD the names of these

men and women for all to see, hear, and recognize, and I call on my colleagues to rise and join me in expressing gratitude.

Richard J. Aguinaga, Edward H. Baden, Victor B. Baker, Leo J. Barnes, Clifton Bartelt, James E. Bell, Donald N. Benkowski, Kenneth A. Benni, Curtis Bentley, Barry E. Boesch, Kenneth G. Bogda, Victor J. Bostjancic, Robert A. Bott, Michael Leon Brazzil, Obie Breaux, Edwin Ray Brookman, Sr., Bernard W. Bucholz, William Buckler, John Joseph Bush, Edward M. Cain, Whitney Carter III, Joseph J. Chandler, John H. Childers, Robert C. Ciner, Donald Ray Coleman, Thurman G. Collier, Lawrence Davis, Anthony Delaurentis, David Walter Deruntz, Michelangelo DiCosola, Edwin W. Dunteman.

William A. Edenhofer, Eddie G. Edmonds, Wesley J. Edwards, Leonard Fioritto, John J. Fisher, Leonard E. Fisher, Albert C. Fleuchaus, Blaine A. Fuhrman, Cruz R. Garcia, Kenneth J. Garhan, Edward F. Gniadek, Jr., David Hanna, Walter Hardy, Bruce R. Harken, Robert Heseke, William M. Hickey, Donald Hoefke, Charles R. Hubbard, James Michael Hudik, Michael Hurley, Walter Leslie Janusch, Donald Johnson, Mack Ester Jones, Donald Kalina, Dennis Dewain Keast, Cleo Edward Keen, Joseph W. Kilcoyne, Allyn Kleinert, John N. Kost, Ronald James Kurpiers, Thomas J. Langley, Richard J. LaVeau, Christopher Joseph LoPresti, Robert J. Lubek, Victor J. Martinka, Jr., William Rockwell McMurray, Peter J. Meier, Eugene J. Meske.

Marvin L. Metzger, Ronald T. Michalski, Edward J. Millar, Jr., Raymond James Miller, Thomas J. Minasola, James Montalbano, Roosevelt B. Moore, Joseph Michael Moravec, Jr., Michael Eugene Morrell, Ronald G. Navickas, James C. Nichols, Philip Edward Norton, Thomas Obrenski, Pierre E. Onnezi, Joseph G. Palmisano, Gary W. Paul, Robert Porter, Cloy Leonard Powers, Ronald M. Raczak, Edmund Rafalski, Jr., Stanley J. Rakauskas, Willie E. Reed, George L. Ridginal, Edward J. Rios.

Orlando Rossino, Thomas W. Siener, George T. Smith, Charles Jasinto Solis, William F. Sonntag, Julius Ceasor Spognardi, James J. Sprecher, Jack Tinsley, Robert L. Usiak, Roy Joseph Veverka, James C. Vodnansky, Jerry Warren, Ray Weatherspoon, Anthony J. Wegner, Ronald Paul Wegrzyn, Richard A. Weihsmantel, Steven P. Williams, Patrick A. Windsor, James Harrison Woods, John H. York, and William Michael Zebleckis.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF FREDERICK DAKOTA

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 20, 2021

Mr. BERGMAN. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the life of Frederick Dakota, who passed away recently after a lifetime of service to our country and his fellow Michiganders. Through his constant dedication, tenacity, and leadership, Fred became an essential part of the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community, the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, and the United States of America.

Fred was born in Zeba, Michigan, on September 13, 1937, and was immediately welcomed into the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community. After attending L'Anse Area Schools, he went on to serve in the U.S. Marine Corps for six years and became one of the first M60 machine gunners. Shortly after retiring from the USMC, Fred moved to Baraga, where he began his public service in 1968 as a Councilmember of the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community. He would go on to serve on the Council for fifty years, being elected Tribal Chairman on numerous occasions. Fred became nationally renowned and respected as a Native American leader, being given the unofficial title of the "Father of Indian gaming."

Fred passed away on September 17, 2021, at his home in Baraga, MI. He is missed dearly by his family and friends, and his legacy will live on for generations to come. Fred's tireless devotion to the KBIC community and the public good improved the lives of countless Tribal members. The impact of his service as a truly passionate Native American leader cannot be overstated.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of Michigan's First Congressional District, I ask you to join me in honoring the life of Frederick Dakota. He will be forever remembered for the many lives he bettered through his tireless service.

HONORING RODERICK TOWNSEND

HON. JERRY McNERNEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 20, 2021

Mr. McNERNEY. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and celebrating Roderick Townsend for his record-breaking success at the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games. Born with nerve damage to his right arm and shoulder, Roderick's incredible journey overcoming adversity has demonstrated that perseverance and hard work can lead to great achievements.

Roderick, a native of Stockton, California, graduated from Lincoln High School. He demonstrated his athletic prowess as a member of Lincoln High School's varsity football team, where he was selected as the 2009 team captain, as well as a San Jose Athletic Association first team defensive end and second team all-area player. Roderick later went on to attend San Joaquin Delta College, where he competed in the decath and high jump. During the 2012 season, he was selected as the Delta College Track and Field Team captain and was ranked seventh in the nation and second in the state of California for his high jump performances. He still holds the Delta College high jump record and Delta College Track Facility record. Roderick went on to graduate from Boise State University and then received his Master of Education from Northern Arizona University.

Making his international debut at the Arizona Grand Prix in 2015, Roderick quickly made a name for himself on the international scene representing the United States in the World Championships in high jump, long jump, and triple jump. Roderick's years of hard work culminated in him being selected to compete in his first Paralympic Games in 2016 in Rio

de Janeiro, Brazil, where he clinched double gold medals by winning both the long jump and high jump T47—setting Paralympic world records in both.

Aspiring to reach even greater heights, Roderick competed in the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games as a member of the United States Paralympics Track and Field Team. Once again having the honor to represent his country in the world's foremost athletic competition, Roderick set the Paralympic world record by leaping 2.15 meters in the men's high jump T47 and in doing so, earned his third gold medal to date. Additionally, he earned the silver medal and achieved his personal record of 7.43 meters in the men's long jump T47.

Roderick also chose to put his years of experience to work serving the youth of his community as a track and field coach. He has coached at Delta College and Jim Elliott Christian High School in Lodi, California, and served as a sports performance coach at The Performance Project in Stockton. Roderick currently serves as a full-time assistant coach with the Northern Arizona University's Men's and Women's Track and Field program.

Roderick serves as an example for young athletes across this country, demonstrating that no matter your circumstances, with hard work you can achieve greatness. I'm honored to recognize Roderick Townsend for his distinguished athletic achievements and ask my colleagues to join me in wishing him the best of luck in his future competitions.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE FLOWER MOUND HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS SOCCER TEAM

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 20, 2021

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Lewisville ISD Flower Mound High School Girls Soccer Team, the Jaguars, for their state championship victory at the UIL Division 6A Championship on April 16, 2021.

The Lady Jaguars, led by senior Riley Baker—a Kansas State signee voted MVP for the championship, junior Sydney Becerra—a Texas A&M signee, and Head Coach Misail Tsapos, secured the state title in a 2–1 game against Austin Vandergrift High School. The team is to be commended for the exemplary teamwork and sportsmanship practiced all season. I am proud to join our community in celebrating their noteworthy accomplishments.

Though the Jaguars were heavily impacted by the challenges of the COVID–19 pandemic, the team overcame and surpassed their obstacles to attain its second state title. I applaud the grit and talent exhibited by each player.

It is my privilege to recognize the outstanding performance of the Flower Mound Jaguars in the 2020–2021 soccer season. I wish the players and coaches continued success in future seasons, both on and off the playing field.

RECOGNIZING CONNIE BALLMER'S
INCREDIBLE PHILANTHROPIC
WORK

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 20, 2021

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Connie Ballmer for being the 2021 recipient of the YMCA's A.K. Guy Award, which is presented to an individual with outstanding volunteer service and dedication to social responsibility and equity and justice for all.

Connie Ballmer founded the Ballmer Group in 2015 with the mission of giving every child an equal chance to achieve the American dream. Since then, the Ballmer Group has worked diligently to remove economic barriers that prevent children from having equal access to education opportunities, housing, childcare, mental health resources, and healthcare. The Ballmer Groups has changed systems to allow every child to have equitable opportunities. Making these investments in our children now gives them the best chance at a successful future.

The Ballmer Group's mission has become even more important over the course of the COVID-19 pandemic, as millions of families faced further economic strain. Without the incredible work of the Ballmer Group and the leadership of Mrs. Ballmer during COVID-19, many children would have completely lost access to resources critical to their development.

Under Connie's leadership, the Ballmer Group has been able to drastically change the lives of the next generation for the better. From making improvements to the foster care system to expanding access to behavioral health systems, the Ballmer Group has been on the forefront of tackling childhood poverty and ensuring every child has an equal chance to succeed.

Madam Speaker, it is my privilege today to thank Connie Ballmer for the enormous contributions she has made to her community and congratulate her on being the 2021 recipient of the A.K. Guy Award.

HONORING THE CAREER AND
SERVICE OF MR. JOE DRISKILL

HON. VICKY HARTZLER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 20, 2021

Mrs. HARTZLER. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the service of Mr. Joe Driskill and congratulate him on his retirement.

I have had the pleasure of working with Joe over the years, and I have admired his dedication to advancing Missouri's military priorities. Joe recently served as the first Military Advocate for the State of Missouri, where he worked tirelessly to preserve and protect Missouri's military installation by coordinating efforts between the state and federal governments. Joe ensured that the State of Missouri and the Congressional Delegation were always on the same page when it came to Missouri's military priorities.

Prior to his role as the state's Military Advocate, Joe served as the executive director of

both the Leonard Wood Institute and the Sustainable Ozarks Partnership at Fort Leonard Wood. Joe dedicated his career to advancing opportunities at Fort Leonard Wood, and understood the strategic importance the installation has on the region, state, and Department of Defense.

Joe's leadership and expertise was also recognized at a national level. In 2019, Joe was elected as the President of the Board of Directors for the Association of Defense Communities.

I thank Joe for his years of service to the state of Missouri. His leadership has made a difference. Congratulations on his retirement. It has been an honor working with him.

HONORING MINNIE PEARL
CAMPBELL

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 20, 2021

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable community servant Ms. Minnie Pearl Campbell.

Ms. Campbell was born in January 1967, in Doddsville, Mississippi, located in Sunflower County. Ms. Campbell currently resides in Indianola, MS. There she graduated from Gentry High School in 1985. In 2003, she attended Superior Health Care, in Cleveland, MS, for her Certified Nursing Assistant certification. Then, she went on to Mississippi Delta Community College (2004–2005) for coursework in Medical Billing.

Ms. Campbell has worked in the health care industry since 2003. She said, "After graduating from high school, I wasn't sure of my career path, but I knew I wanted to help others because of my disabled sister. My family worked hard to help her live a fulfilling life. Without my siblings and I making personal sacrifices I doubt if it would have been possible. We didn't have many options around us for a good-quality-level health care assisted facility for people with limited financial resources and family support in Indianola." So eventually, Minnie and her sister (Maple L. Campbell) decided to establish one.

In 2003, after receiving her nursing assistant certification, Ms. Campbell began working for the North Sunflower County Hospital as a Certified Nursing Assistant in Ruleville, MS. This position required her to assist patients with daily living skills, monitor patient vitals, assist with physical therapy, and manage flow chart records of patients. After leaving the hospital and because of her skills, knowledge, and training, Ms. Campbell cared for patients in the privacy of their homes as their personal Adult Care Provider under direction and coordination of care with a medical provider. As an Adult Care Provider, she has worked for Southern Health Care (2004 to Present), Oxford Health Care (2010 to Present), and Private Care (2012 to 2015).

In 2016, Ms. Campbell and her sister, Maple L. Campbell, started the Platinum Plus Care Assisted Living Facility at 617 Highway 82 West, Indianola, MS. Ms. Campbell is the COO and Administrator. The Campbell sisters made history, becoming the first Black/Black female owned and operated full-time assisted

living facility in Indianola. Platinum Care Plus Assisted Living Facility is a twenty-seven-bed facility that offers 24-hours and 365 days a year of care to veterans and elderly adults. It provides care in the areas of administering and monitoring of medication, personal care (bathing and dressing), transportation and personal assistance at medical appointments, care coordination with medical providers, social and recreational activities, housekeeping and laundry, exercise, nutritious and health meals, a social and engaging environment, and more.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Ms. Minnie Pearl Campbell for her dedication to being a public servant in the health care industry.

TRIBUTE TO DAVID PATTEN, JR.

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 20, 2021

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a servant leader, professional athlete, and a son of South Carolina. David Patten, Jr., from Columbia, South Carolina, passed away on September 2, 2021 at the age of 47. He was taken from us too soon but lived his life as an example for others to follow and his legacy will live on in the countless number of people he touched.

David was born the third of four children to David Patten, Sr., and Betty Williams Patten. He was a football stand out at Lower Richland High School and earned a full scholarship to play at Western Carolina University.

When he left college, David was passed over by the National Football League (NFL) because of his small stature. But what he didn't have in size, he made up for in determination. While working in a coffee bean factory, he trained hard to achieve his goal of becoming an NFL player and spent time playing in the Canadian and Arena Football Leagues. His big break came at a University of South Carolina Pro Timing Day, when the New York Giants extended him an invitation to try out. The rest is history.

David went on to have a successful 12-year career as a receiver in the NFL, where he earned three Super Bowl rings. He is best remembered for making two iconic catches to help the New England Patriots win their first Super Bowl in 2001. Over the course of his career, David played for the New York Giants (1997 to 1999), Cleveland Browns (2000), New England Patriots (2001 to 2004), Washington Redskins (2005 to 2006), and the New Orleans Saints (2007 to 2008). He played in 147 NFL games, caught 324 passes for 4,715 yards and scored 24 touchdowns.

His motto "maximum effort" grew from his philosophy that one must work hard to be the best at whatever he pursued. When he retired from the NFL, David applied his motto to finishing his degree in social work at Western Carolina. He became an ordained minister in 2013. He also became a property investor, renovator, and landscaper, all while applying his motto, "maximum effort" to his life experiences.

David was a powerful motivational speaker. The driving force in his life was his Christian faith, and he became well known for his mission to be an ambassador for Christ. David

married his college sweetheart, Galiena Hardy, and they were a devoted couple for 24 years. They established the "A Way of Life" (AWOL) Ministries. Together they sought to leave no soul lost.

David leaves to mourn his wife and their four children, David III, Daquan, Quinton, and Mia, his parents, siblings and extended family.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and our colleagues to join me in celebrating the life of David Patten, Jr. President Abraham Lincoln is purported to have said, "It's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years." I believe this to be fitting for David. He lived a significant and meaningful life, and we are all better for having had him among us.

RECOGNIZING THE FRESNO COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 20, 2021

Mr. VALADAO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the fortieth anniversary of the Fresno County Economic Development Corporation (EDC) and their efforts to expand economic growth, investment, and prosperity in Fresno County.

The EDC was established in 1981 to promote job and business growth in Fresno County. Efforts have included marketing Fresno County as the premier location to grow core industries, facilitating state selection for companies new to the county, and assisting in retaining and expanding local businesses. The organization has also supported local business by publishing reports, hosting annual events, promoting networking opportunities, and sharing resources and information to clients and stakeholders.

Since its foundation, the EDC has maintained a commitment to excellence and innovation. The EDC was awarded the 2018 International Economic Development Council Gold Award for the New Employment Opportunities (NEO) Expanded Subsidized Employment program.

The Fresno County Economic Development Corporation has played a vital role in growth and success of business in Fresno County and is committed to solidifying the economic strength of the county into the future.

I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the EDC's fortieth anniversary and recognizing their contributions to the Fresno County community.

HONORING THE BALE GRIST MILL STATE HISTORIC PARK

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 20, 2021

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Bale Grist Mill as it celebrates its 175th Anniversary.

The Bale Grist Mill was founded in 1846 by Dr. Edward Turner Bale. It was given to Dr. Bale with a land grant from the Mexican gov-

ernment and remained in operation until the early 1900s. The mill's longevity was not only a credit to Dr. Bale, but also his wife, Maria Soberanes. Under Maria's management, the Bale Grist Mill became extremely prosperous, and she became one of the wealthiest women in Napa Valley.

Powered by a 36-foot-tall waterwheel, the Bale Grist Mill converted grains and corn into more usable meals and flours for breads and other food. For the pioneers, the Mill was a technological wonder, and it significantly simplified the grain conversion process. The Bale Grist Mill was especially known for producing the best meals and flours for cornbread, yellow bread, shortening bread, and spoon bread. This technological innovation also served as an important social center for farmers and settlers who gathered to convert their crops for consumption in Napa Valley.

With funding from the Napa Valley State Parks Association, and the help and support of local vintners Dario Sattui and the late Holbrook Mitchell, as well as the advocacy of the late Ranger Sandy Jones, Millwright Rob Grassi restored the mill's water wheel in 2019 and 2020. This endeavor earned Mr. Grassi the Preservationist of the Year Award from Napa County Landmarks. Now, the Bale Grist Mill is a protected State Historic Landmark operated by the Napa Valley State Parks Association in partnership with Napa Open Space.

The Bale Grist Mill State Historic Park maintains one of the few remaining functioning mills in the United States, and houses the first church founded in Napa Valley and the Pioneer cemetery. The park is open to visitors and offers educational activities, tours, special events, and milling demonstrations for the public.

Madam Speaker, there is no doubt that the Bale Grist Mill was a pioneering technological advancement for Napa Valley. It is therefore, fitting and proper that we honor it here today.

HONORING THE WORLD WAR II, KOREAN WAR, AND VIETNAM WAR VETERANS OF ILLINOIS

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 20, 2021

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the World War II, Korean War, and Vietnam War Veterans who traveled to Washington, D.C. on September 16, 2021 with Honor Flight Chicago, a program that provides World War II, Korean War, and Vietnam War veterans the opportunity to visit their memorials on The National Mall in Washington, D.C. These memorials were built to honor their courage and service to their country.

The American Veteran is one of our greatest treasures. The Soldiers, Airmen, Sailors, Marines, and Coast Guardsmen who traveled here on September 16th answered our nation's call to service during one of its greatest times of need. From the European Campaign to the Pacific Asian Theatre to the African Theater, these brave Americans risked life and limb, gave service and sacrificed much, all while embodying what it is to be a hero. We owe them more gratitude than can ever be expressed.

I welcome these brave veterans to Washington and to their memorials. I am proud to

include in the RECORD the names of these men and women for all to see, hear, and recognize, and I call on my colleagues to rise and join me in expressing gratitude.

Daniel L. Anderson, Hector Andreos, Phillip G. Arazny, Richard Bambach, James B. Barg, Sr., Richard Bee, Edward Bernius, Ronald A. Berta, James T. Blaschek, Daniel G. Braglia, Thomas J. Brown, Irvin Anton Bryce, Jr., Marion J. Buliga, Joseph Byrnes, Dwight Russell Canfield, James J. Carson, Thomas G. Castleberry, Edward L. Christensen, Dennis M. Close, Robert Cocanig, Patrick T. Cooper, Paul H. Crites, Nicholas J. D'Ambrosio, Ermon Davis, John I. Demstrom, David G. Dietschweiler, John W. Dite, Jr., Benjamin Dominik, William Mitchell Ellison Sr., Stephen J. Fenes, Robert Erwin Ferkaluk, Earl I. Folkestad, Joshua Frank, Leonard E. Fiddle, Sr., Ray P. Genis, Jerome Gillis, Arthur R. Gipson, Paul W. Goodwin, Salvatore V. Governale, Alfonso Granata, Charles Granholm, Romaine Gregg, Michael S. Halstead, Howard L. Hill, Jerry M. Hilsenbeck, Charles M. Holz, John P. Howatt, Henry G. Inselberger, Richard E. Jocius, Theodore N. Jones, Richard J. Keethers, Paul Kenneth Knox, Fred A. Koch, Keith J. Kolozie, Eugene J. Korus, Kenneth Robert Kovac, Clifford August Krueger, Leo Kubowitsch, Ronald J. Kupczyk, James Latta, Clifford J. Leber, Milton LeShore, Ronald Floiran Lewandowski, Donald L. Lines, Jay S. Lipa, Monty C. Lutz, Willie J. Lymon, Thomas E. Mara, Louis Marosi, Howard J. Martens, Lawrence A. Mayer, Orland F. McCarthy Jr., Clifton McSwine, Charles Robert Mead, Fred J. Moffatt III, William Moskal, Hugh L. Mulligan, James A. Muntefering, Thomas M. Myron, Dennis Lenard Myszk, Ronald G. Navickas, John N. Nuebel, Edward J. O'Connell, James A. Oftedal, Willie James Osborne, Kenneth V. Pacyga, Sr., Wayne H. Pearson, Richard D. Peters, Thomas Phebus, Arnold Yusuf Rashad, Sr., Carl F. Rollberg, Leo V. Sage, Jack Carne Sasso, Victor J. Sassolino, Robert E. Schalund, David M. Schreiner, George Schuitema, David L. Shea, Anthony J. Siciliano, Jerry L. Siebersma, Dwight D. Smith, Gary Steger, Joseph C. Stendebach, John Charles Stevens, Bernard Francis Stiemann, Lee A. Thomas, Lawrence Vaillancourt, Jay Warbany, Thomas R. Wertz, Kenneth J. Wilk, Henderson Yarbrough, Robert J. Zajac, Gerald J. Zeborowski, William Edward Zimmer.

IN CELEBRATION OF MARIANNE WEINGARTEN'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. RICK LARSEN

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 20, 2021

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Madam Speaker, I rise to celebrate the 100th birthday of Ms. Marianne Weingarten.

Marianne Lilli Katz Weingarten was born in Germany in 1921. At age 14, she was sent to Spain to live with her aunt and uncle, but four months after she arrived, the Spanish Civil War broke out and she was forced to return to Germany.

Marianne and her parents fled Nazi Germany in 1938 and immigrated to the United States. She worked with the Jewish Emigre service in Seattle during the war, taking immigrants off boats and helping them on their next steps in their new country.

She married Morty Weingarten of North Dakota, who had come to Everett to work for The Boeing Company.

Marianne and Morty had 2 children, Tom and Susan. Marianne has lived in her home in Seattle for 70 years, during which time she has cruised all over the world.

She now serves on the gardening committee in her senior residence and enjoys playing ping pong.

I would like to celebrate Ms. Marianne Weingarten for her rich and full life, and for her service to others that helped make the Pacific Northwest and this country a better place.

CELEBRATING THE RETIREMENT
OF DR. VOLETTA WILLIAMS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 20, 2021

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the legacy and service of a remarkable leader, Dr. Voletta Williams.

Dr. Williams is happy to conclude her educational career on a high note. The outgoing chair and professor for the Department of Biological Sciences retired after a 32-year career.

Dr. Williams' dedication has led her to promotions to chair in 2016, interim chair in 2015, professor in 2013, and associate professor in 2006. Before being granted tenure in 2007, Dr. Williams was an adjunct instructor.

Forever grateful for such a milestone, Dr. Williams will miss teaching and preparing the next generation of scientist for success. She doesn't plan to slow down just yet. Her future includes assisting her beloved Alcorn State University, committing to church activities, and enjoying her family. She plans to continue to contribute to Alcorn as needed or requested. Her goal now is to explore avenues to serve our multicultural students better, improve STEM areas at Alcorn, spend quality time with family, expand church projects, and remain a mother figure to many students as well as her children and grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the legacy, and service of Dr. Voletta Williams as she celebrates retirement after 32 years from Alcorn State University's Department of Biological Sciences.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF CHIEF
ROLAND ASEBEDO

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 20, 2021

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the distinguished public service of Chief Roland Asebedo, the Fire Marshall and Director of Development and Emergency Services for Denton County. After a professional life devoted to protecting and serving the community, Chief Asebedo passed away on September 13, 2021, at the age of 56 after a courageous battle with COVID-19.

Chief Asebedo obtained his Master Peace Officer certification in 1998 and his Associates Degree from South Plains College in 2002.

Originally from Silverton, Texas, Chief Asebedo began his tenure with Denton County Emergency Services in 2004.

Over the course of his fire service career, Chief Asebedo served as the Fire Chief of Highland Village, the Fire Marshall of Coppell, and the Assistant Fire Chief and Fire Marshall with the Plainview/EMS department. His expertise and dedication to ensuring North Texans' safety led to his appointment as the Denton County Fire Marshal and Director of Development and Emergency Services in 2020.

Chief Asebedo's career in emergency services spanned 30 years, and his efforts have saved and safeguarded innumerable lives in our community. Denton County has lost an unparalleled public servant with Roland Asebedo's passing. The civic virtues of compassion, professionalism and selflessness demonstrated by Chief Asebedo will inspire his Denton County and North Texas colleagues to continue to provide the exemplary standard of conduct that characterized his meritorious career. I join the friends, family, and colleagues of Roland Asebedo in mourning his loss and honoring his legacy.

HONORING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY
OF MARY REED

HON. A. DREW FERGUSON IV

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 20, 2021

Mr. FERGUSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Mary Reed, a distinguished member of the Columbus, Georgia, community, who recently celebrated her 100th birthday.

Mary is part of the heartbeat of Columbus. Serving as the longtime Executive Secretary for the Rotary Club of Columbus, she prides herself on perfect attendance and leadership in helping others.

She is an accomplished woman of God, a dedicated wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother. Last month, in honor and recognition of her impact in the community, Columbus Mayor Skip Henderson proclaimed Friday, August 25, 2021, as Mary Reed Day, a fitting tribute.

Madam Speaker, Mary Reed is a shining example of putting service above self, and our community is a better place thanks to her kindness and selflessness. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Mary a happy 100th birthday and thank her for her many years of service to our community.

HONORING THE COMMUNITY SERVICE AND RETIREMENT OF BEVERLY BOLING

HON. DIANA HARSHBARGER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 20, 2021

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Horizon Credit Union's President/CEO Beverly Boling who has announced her plans to retire this year after 42 years of service to members of the credit union. Her retirement will be effective September 30, 2021.

Boling began her career in 1979 at what was then the Municipal Employees Credit Union, in the basement of the former city hall on Center Street. During her tenure, she has seen the credit union grow from having under \$500,000 in assets to \$65 million. She was instrumental in the 1999 merger of Kingsport Postal and Federal Credit Union to form First Kingsport Credit Union, which then merged with AGC Credit Union in 2014 to create Horizon Credit Union. Boling also worked to introduce many of the innovations customers now see as common place to Horizon Credit Union, including debit cards and credit union-owned ATMs.

The credit union industry and the local community have also benefited greatly from Boling's desire to help others. She served on the Tennessee Credit Union League Board and in the Upper East Tennessee Chapter of Credit Unions. Currently, she volunteers her time and expertise as Treasurer of the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Kingsport and Chairman of the Mount Carmel Block Party.

When Boling started at the credit union, she was the second full-time employee ever. Now, she leaves Horizon Credit Union in the hands of a tenured, capable team of people.

After she retires, Boling will embark on a life of adventure and exploration. Her plans include boarding a catamaran with Mr. Dana, her husband, and sailing to the Caribbean, Fiji and beyond.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 65TH
BIRTHDAY OF DR. KENNETH
VANDERVOORT

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 20, 2021

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 65th birthday of Dr. Kenneth "Buddy" Vandervoort.

Dr. Vandervoort was born to Harold and Ken Vandervoort in New Orleans, Louisiana. He graduated from Guntersville High School and went on to graduate magna cum laude from the University of Alabama.

He received his medical degree from the University of Alabama in Birmingham where he was a member of the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society.

Dr. Vandervoort works as an orthopedic surgeon at Anniston Orthopedic Associates. He is past chief of the medical staff at Northeast Alabama Regional Medical Center and is a director of The Surgery Center in Oxford.

He currently serves on The Board of Trustees of The University of Alabama System, representing the Third Congressional District. He is a founding board member of Noble Bank and Trust and is a past president and lifetime board member of the Calhoun County YMCA. He is also an involved member of Anniston First United Methodist Church and works with Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Buddy enjoys athletics and is a two-time Ironman triathlon finisher.

He was married to the late Martha Smith Vandervoort and blessed with three children: Lucile, Kenneth and William. He and his wife, Walton, have nine grandchildren and reside in Anniston, Alabama.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing Buddy and wishing him a happy 65th birthday.

HONORING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GEORGIA FRUIT AND VEGETABLE GROWERS ASSOCIATION

HON. A. DREW FERGUSON IV

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 20, 2021

Mr. FERGUSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the Georgia Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association, which celebrated its 25th anniversary in August. For the past 25 years, the association has solidified itself as the premier resource to represent the fruit and vegetable industry in Georgia—a sector that is essential to Georgia's economy and prosperity.

By providing services such as education programs to maximize production, marketing opportunities to increase profits, and disaster management tools to handle natural disasters and crises, the Georgia Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association is without question a cornerstone of the Georgia ag industry and a boon to specialty crop growers across the state.

The association has instituted a multitude of innovative solutions aimed toward helping its members. They have worked diligently with national organizations and congressional offices to secure relief aid through the Coronavirus Food and Assistance Program and implemented modern strategies aimed toward strengthening Georgia's specialty growers.

As the Georgia Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association rounds out 25 years, I look forward to a bright future of continued strength and advocacy, and I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating this association's great accomplishments.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, September 21, 2021 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

SEPTEMBER 22

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Environment and Public Works

Business meeting to consider S. 2205, to designate the United States courthouse

located at 201 South Evans Street in Greenville, North Carolina, as the "Malcolm J. Howard United States Courthouse", S. 2126, to designate the Federal Office Building located at 308 W. 21st Street in Cheyenne, Wyoming, as the "Louisa Swain Federal Office Building", S. 1226, to designate the United States courthouse located at 1501 North 6th Street in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, as the "Sylvia H. Rambo United States Courthouse", S. 233, to designate the Rocksprings Station of the U.S. Border Patrol located on West Main Street in Rocksprings, Texas, as the "Donna M. Doss Border Patrol Station", the nominations of Jeffrey M. Prieto, of California, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, Michael Lee Connor, of Colorado, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Army, Department of Defense, Stephen A. Owens, of Arizona, Jennifer Beth Sass, of Maryland, and Sylvia E. Johnson, of North Carolina, each to be a Member of the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board, and 9 General Services Administration resolutions; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine the circular economy as a concept for creating a more sustainable future.

SD-406

10 a.m.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Business meeting to consider the nominations of Alexander Hoehn-Saric, of Maryland, Mary T. Boyle, of Maryland, and Richard Trumka, Jr., of Maryland, each to be a Commissioner of the Consumer Product Safety Commission, and Grant T. Harris, of California, to be an Assistant Secretary of Commerce; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine the nominations of Victoria Marie Baecher Wassmer, of the District of Columbia, to be Chief Financial Officer, Mohsin Raza Syed, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary, and Amitabha Bose, of New Jersey, to be Administrator of the Federal Railroad Administration, all of the Department of Transportation, and Meera Joshi, of Pennsylvania, to be Administrator of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration.

SR-253

Committee on Finance

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Christi A. Grimm, of Colorado, to be Inspector General, Department of Health and Human Services, and Neil Harvey MacBride, of Virginia, to be General Counsel for the Department of the Treasury.

SD-215

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Subcommittee on Employment and Workplace Safety

To hold hearings to examine successful on the job, apprenticeship training programs to help workers and business get ready to work.

SD-430

Committee on the Judiciary

Subcommittee on the Constitution

To hold hearings to examine restoring the Voting Rights Act, focusing on combating discriminatory abuses.

SD-226

10:15 a.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Thomas R. Nides, of Minnesota, to be Ambassador to the State of Israel, David L. Cohen, of Pennsyl-

vania, to be Ambassador to Canada, Cynthia Ann Telles, of California, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Costa Rica, Sarah Margon, of New York, to be Assistant Secretary for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, and Tom Udall, of New Mexico, to be Ambassador to New Zealand, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Independent State of Samoa, all of the Department of State.

SD-G50/VTC

10:30 a.m.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Cathy Ann Harris, of Maryland, to be Chairman and a Member, and Tristan Lynn Leavitt, of Idaho, and Raymond A. Limon, of Nevada, both to be a Member, all of the Merit Systems Protection Board.

SD-342/VTC

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Atul Atmaram Gawande, of Massachusetts, to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, and Claire D. Cronin, of Massachusetts, to be Ambassador to Ireland, Virginia E. Palmer, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Ghana, and Howard A. Van Vranken, of California, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Botswana, all of the Department of State.

VTC

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship

To hold hearings to examine a review of the Small Business Innovation Research-Small Business Technology Transfer Program.

SR-301

Joint Economic Committee

To hold hearings to examine the economic benefits of electrifying America's homes and buildings.

SH-216

3 p.m.

Select Committee on Intelligence

To receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

SEPTEMBER 23

9 a.m.

Committee on the Judiciary

Business meeting to consider S. 1787, to amend title 28 of the United States Code to prevent the transfer of actions arising under the antitrust laws in which a State is a complainant, S. 2502, to provide first-time, low-level, non-violent simple possession offenders an opportunity to expunge that conviction after successful completion of court-imposed probation, and the nominations of Toby J. Heytens, of Virginia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fourth Circuit, Patricia Tolliver Giles, and Michael S. Nachmanoff, both to be a United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Virginia, Sarala Vidya Nagala, and Omar Antonio Williams, both to be a United States District Judge for the District of Connecticut, and Hampton Y. Dellinger, of North Carolina, to be an Assistant Attorney General, Erik L. Barron, to be United States Attorney for the District of Maryland, Nicholas W. Brown, to be United States Attorney for the Western District of Washington, Matthew M. Graves, to be United States Attorney for the District

of Columbia, Clifford D. Johnson, to be United States Attorney for the Northern District of Indiana, Zachary A. Myers, of Maryland, to be United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, Rachael S. Rollins, to be United States Attorney for the District of Massachusetts, Trini E. Ross, to be United States Attorney for the Western District of New York, and Vanessa Waldref, to be United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Washington, all of the Department of Justice.

SH-216

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Gen. Jacqueline D. Van Ovost, USAF for reappointment to the grade of general and to be Commander, United States Transportation Command, Department of Defense.

SD-G50

Special Committee on Aging

To hold hearings to examine fraud, scams, and COVID-19, focusing on how older Americans have been targeted during the pandemic.

SD-562

10:15 a.m.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine national cybersecurity strategy, focusing on protection of Federal and critical infrastructure systems.

SD-342/VTC

SEPTEMBER 28

10 a.m.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine the administration of laws under the jurisdiction of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

SD-366

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S6535–S6555

Measures Introduced: Nine bills and six resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2757–2765, S.J. Res. 25, and S. Res. 367–371. **Pages S6550–51**

Strickland Nomination—Agreement: Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Margaret Irene Strickland, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Mexico. **Pages S6537–46**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the nomination at approximately 10:30 a.m., on Tuesday, September 21, 2021; and that if cloture is invoked, all post-cloture time expire at 2:30 p.m. **Page S6554**

Batchelder Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Lily Lawrence Batchelder, of Massachusetts, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury. **Page S6548**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur on Wednesday, September 22, 2021. **Page S6548**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S6548**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S6548**

White Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Jayme Ray White, of Washington, to be a Deputy United States Trade Representative (Western Hemisphere, Europe, the Middle East, Labor, and Environment), with the rank of Ambassador. **Page S6548**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Lily Lawrence Batchelder, of Massachusetts, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury. **Page S6548**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S6548**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S6548**

Pan Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Florence Y. Pan, of the District of Columbia, to be United States District Judge for the District of Columbia. **Page S6548**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Jayme Ray White, of Washington, to be a Deputy United States Trade Representative (Western Hemisphere, Europe, the Middle East, Labor, and Environment), with the rank of Ambassador. **Page S6548**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S6548**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S6548**

Nomination Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nomination:

By 50 yeas to 42 nays (Vote No. EX. 366), Veronica S. Rossman, of Colorado, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Tenth Circuit.

Pages S6546–48, S6555

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Rostin Behnam, of Maryland, to be Chairman of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

Rostin Behnam, of Maryland, to be a Commissioner of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission for a term expiring June 19, 2026.

Christy Goldsmith Romero, of Virginia, to be a Commissioner of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission for the remainder of the term expiring April 13, 2024.

Kristin N. Johnson, of Michigan, to be a Commissioner of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission for a term expiring April 13, 2025.

Margo Schlanger, of Michigan, to be an Assistant Secretary of Agriculture.

Nickolas Guertin, of Virginia, to be Director of Operational Test and Evaluation, Department of Defense.

John Bradley Sherman, of Texas, to be Chief Information Officer of the Department of Defense.

Reta Jo Lewis, of Georgia, to be President of the Export-Import Bank of the United States for a term expiring January 20, 2025.

Alanna McCargo, of Virginia, to be President, Government National Mortgage Association.

James Arthur Jemison II, of Michigan, to be an Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

Alvaro M. Bedoya, of Maryland, to be a Federal Trade Commissioner for the term of seven years from September 26, 2019.

Willie L. Phillips, Jr., of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for a term expiring June 30, 2026.

Maria Louise Lago, of New York, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for International Trade.

Robert Michael Gordon, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services.

Adriana Debora Kugler, of Maryland, to be United States Executive Director of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development for a term of two years.

Thomas Carnahan, of Missouri, to be a Representative of the United States of America to the Seventy-sixth Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

Sim Farar, of California, to be a Representative of the United States of America to the Seventy-sixth Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

French Hill, of Arkansas, to be a Representative of the United States of America to the Seventy-sixth Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

Barbara Lee, of California, to be a Representative of the United States of America to the Seventy-sixth Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

Deborah E. Lipstadt, of Georgia, to be Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism, with the rank of Ambassador.

Krista Anne Boyd, of Florida, to be Inspector General, Office of Personnel Management.

Lucy Haeran Koh, of California, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit.

Gabriel P. Sanchez, of California, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit.

Holly A. Thomas, of California, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit.

Hernan D. Vera, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California.

Maame Ewusi-Mensah Frimpong, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California.

Jennifer L. Thurston, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of California.

David Herrera Urias, of New Mexico, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Mexico.

Katherine Marie Menendez, of Minnesota, to be United States District Judge for the District of Minnesota.

1 Air Force nomination in the rank of general.

2 Army nominations in the rank of general.

1 Space Force nomination in the rank of general.

Pages S6554–55

Nominations Withdrawn: Senate received notification of withdrawal of the following nominations:

Adriana Dobra Kugler, of Maryland, to be United States Executive Director of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development for a term of two years, which was sent to the Senate on August 9, 2021.

1 Army nomination in the rank of general.

A routine list in the Navy.

Page S6555

Nomination Discharged: The following nomination were discharged from further committee consideration and placed on the Executive Calendar:

Thomas Andrew Monheim, of Virginia, to be Inspector General of the Intelligence Community, Office of the Director of National Intelligence, which was sent to the Senate on May 10, 2021, from the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

Page S6555

Measures Read the First Time: **Pages S6550, S6554**

Executive Communications: **Page S6550**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S6551–52**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:

Additional Statements: **Pages S6549–50**

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—366)

Page S6546

Adjournment: Senate convened at 3 p.m. and adjourned at 6:48 p.m., until 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, September 21, 2021. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S6554.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

No committee meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 11 public bills, H.R. 5293–5303; and 10 resolutions, H.J. Res. 51; and H. Res. 658–666, were introduced.

Pages H4555–56

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages H4557–58

Report Filed: A report was filed today as follows:

H.R. 267, to extend the wildfire and hurricane indemnity program to cover certain crop losses in calendar year 2020, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 117–124).

Page H4555

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Dingell to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

Page H4533

Recess: The House recessed at 2:15 p.m. and reconvened at 4:31 p.m.

Page H4535

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Department of Veterans Affairs Expiring Authorities Act of 2021: H.R. 5293, to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend and modify certain authorities and requirements relating to the Department of Veterans Affairs, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nay vote of 423 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 261;

Pages H4535–36, H4543

Veterans’ Disability Compensation Automatic COLA Act of 2021: S. 189, to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for annual cost-of-living adjustments to be made automatically by law each year in the rates of disability compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for survivors of certain service-connected disabled veterans, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nay vote of 423 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 262;

Pages H4536–37, H4544

Naming the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Aurora, Colorado, as the “Lieutenant Colonel John W. Mosley VA Clinic”: H.R. 4172, to name the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic

in Aurora, Colorado, as the “Lieutenant Colonel John W. Mosley VA Clinic”;

Pages H4537–39

Naming the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Gaylord, Michigan, as the “Navy Corpsman Steve Andrews Department of Veterans Affairs Health Care Clinic”: H.R. 1281, to name the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Gaylord, Michigan, as the “Navy Corpsman Steve Andrews Department of Veterans Affairs Health Care Clinic”;

Pages H4539–41

Naming the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Columbus, Georgia, as the “Robert S. Poydasheff VA Clinic”: H.R. 3475, to name the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Columbus, Georgia, as the “Robert S. Poydasheff VA Clinic”.

Pages H4541–43

Recess: The House recessed at 5:17 p.m. and reconvened at 6:30 p.m.

Page H4543

Moment of Silence: The House observed a moment of silence in remembrance of the following servicemembers who were killed during the terrorist attack in Kabul, Afghanistan, on August 26, 2021: Marine Corps Lance Corporal David L. Espinoza, Marine Corps Sergeant Nicole L. Gee, Marine Corps Staff Sergeant Darin T. Hoover, Army Staff Sergeant Ryan C. Knauss, Marine Corps Corporal Hunter Lopez, Marine Corps Lance Corporal Rylee J. McColum, Marine Corps Lance Corporal Dylan R. Merola, Marine Corps Lance Corporal Kareem M. Nikoui, Marine Corps Corporal Daegan W. Page, Marine Corps Sergeant Johnny Rosario Pichardo, Marine Corps Corporal Humberto A. Sanchez, Marine Corps Lance Corporal Jared M. Schmitz, and Navy Hospitalman Maxton W. Soviak.

Pages H4543–44

Committee Election: The House agreed to H. Res. 658, electing a Member to a certain standing committee of the House of Representatives.

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Quorum Calls—Votes: Two yeas-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H4543 and H4544.

Adjournment: The House met at 2 p.m. and adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

Committee Meetings

WOMEN'S HEALTH PROTECTION ACT OF 2021; MAKING CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2022, AND FOR PROVIDING EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES; NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022

Committee on Rules: Full Committee began a hearing on H.R. 3755, the "Women's Health Protection Act of 2021"; legislation on making continuing appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2022, and for providing emergency assistance, and for other purposes; and H.R. 4350, the "National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022". Testimony was heard from Chairman DeLauro, Chairman Smith of Washington, and Representatives Schakowsky, Rodgers of Washington, Granger, Rogers of Alabama, Burgess, Cammack, Comer, Davidson of Ohio, Jackson Lee, Johnson of Georgia, Lee of California, Graves of Louisiana, Griffith, Grothman, Mast, Miller-Meeks, Sherman, Stauber, Plaskett, Thompson of Pennsylvania, Gohmert, Bilirakis, Greene of Georgia, Wenstrup, and Moore of Utah.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2021

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Armed Services: to receive a closed briefing on Department of Defense support of Afghan Nationals who have recently left Afghanistan, 9:30 a.m., SD-106.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Alan F. Estevez, of Maryland, to be Under Secretary for Industry and Security, and Thea D. Rozman Kendler, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary, both of the Department of Commerce, and Alexia Marie Gabrielle Latortue, of the District of Columbia, and Graham Scott Steele, of California, both to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, 10 a.m., SD-G50.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Tourism, Trade, and Export Promotion, to hold hearings to examine legislative solutions to revive travel and tourism and create jobs, 3 p.m., SR-253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Laura Daniel-Davis, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary, and M. Camille Calimlim Touton, of Nevada, to be Commissioner of Reclamation, both of the Department of the Interior, and Sara C. Bronin, of Connecticut, to be Chairman of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, 10 a.m., SD-366.

Committee on Finance: Subcommittee on Social Security, Pensions, and Family Policy, to hold hearings to examine policy options for improving Supplemental Security Income, 2:45 p.m., WEBEX.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: to hold hearings to examine the landscape 20 years after 9/11, focusing on threats to the homeland, 9:30 a.m., SD-342.

Committee on Judiciary: Subcommittee on Competition Policy, Antitrust, and Consumer Rights, to hold hearings to examine big data, focusing on implications for competition and consumers, 2:30 p.m., SD-226.

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: business meeting to consider the nomination of Dilawar Syed, of California, to be Deputy Administrator of the Small Business Administration, and other pending calendar business, 10 a.m., SR-428A.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH-219.

House

Committee on Agriculture, Full Committee, markup on H. Res. 271, recognizing the importance of the blueberry industry to the United States and supporting the designation of July 2021 as National Blueberry Month; and H.R. 2424, the "Agricultural Fairs Rescue Act", 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth and Zoom.

Committee on Financial Services, Task Force on Financial Technology, hearing entitled "Preserving the Right of Consumers to Access Personal Financial Data", 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere, Civilian Security, Migration and International Economic Policy, hearing entitled "An International Response to Ortega's Destruction of Democracy in Nicaragua", 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Subcommittee on Space and Aeronautics, hearing entitled "NASA's Future in Low Earth Orbit: Considerations for International Space Station Extension and Transition", 11 a.m., Zoom.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, hearing on legislation to amend title 38, United States Code, to eliminate the Freddie Mac conforming loan limitation; legislation to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to pay to certain veterans, who receive certain educational assistance furnished by the Secretary, a weekly stipend for child care services; legislation to amend title 38, United States Code, to increase and extend the authorization of appropriations for homeless veterans reintegration programs; legislation to amend the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to establish protections under that Act for a member of the Armed Forces who

leaves a course of education, paid for with certain educational assistance, to perform certain service; legislation to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to report on the Warrior Training Advancement Course of the Veterans Benefit Administration; legislation to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend eligibility for a certain work-study allowance paid by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to certain individuals who pursue programs of rehabilitation, education, or training on at least a half-time basis; legislation on Homeless Grant; legislation to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a pilot program on grants for care for elderly homeless veterans, and for other purposes; legislation to extend the delimiting period for certain individuals to use educational assistance benefits administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs; legislation to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a pilot program on substance use and alcohol use disorder recovery for homeless veterans, and for other purposes; legislation to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide technical assistance to recipients of grants for supportive services for very low-income families in permanent housing and comprehensive service programs, and for other purposes; legislation to amend title 38, United States Code, to adjust the rate of per diem payments provided by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to grantees that provide services to homeless veterans; legislation to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit to Congress a report on the shallow subsidy program under the supportive services for veteran families program, and for other purposes; legislation to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a pilot program to improve public transportation services for veterans; legislation to amend title 38, United States Code, to ensure that the Secretary of Veterans Affairs repays members of the Armed Forces for certain contributions made by such members towards Post-9/11 Educational Assistance; H.R. 4874, to amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements to the use of educational assistance provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs for flight training programs; legislation to amend title 38, United States Code, to prohibit the use of entitlement to educational assistance under the Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance Program for secondary school education; legislation on Fry Scholarship Enhancement Act of 2021; legislation on Col. James Floyd Turner IV U.S.M.C. GI Bill Transfer Act of 2021, 9:30 a.m., Zoom.

Joint Meetings

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: to hold hearings to examine Belarus, focusing on updates on the current situation and U.S. policy responses and options, 2:30 p.m., SD-419.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of September 21 through
September 24, 2021

Senate Chamber

On *Tuesday*, Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Margaret Irene Strickland, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Mexico, and vote on the motion to invoke cloture thereon at 11:30 a.m. If cloture is invoked on the nomination, Senate will vote on confirmation thereon at 2:30 p.m.

During the balance of the week, Senate may consider any cleared legislative and executive business.

Senate Committees

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Committee on Armed Services: September 21, to receive a closed briefing on Department of Defense support of Afghan Nationals who have recently left Afghanistan, 9:30 a.m., SD-106.

September 23, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Gen. Jacqueline D. Van Ovost, USAF for reappointment to the grade of general and to be Commander, United States Transportation Command, Department of Defense, 9:30 a.m., SD-G50.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: September 21, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Alan F. Estevez, of Maryland, to be Under Secretary for Industry and Security, and Thea D. Rozman Kendler, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary, both of the Department of Commerce, and Alexia Marie Gabrielle Latortue, of the District of Columbia, and Graham Scott Steele, of California, both to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, 10 a.m., SD-G50.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: September 21, Subcommittee on Tourism, Trade, and Export Promotion, to hold hearings to examine legislative solutions to revive travel and tourism and create jobs, 3 p.m., SR-253.

September 22, Full Committee, business meeting to consider the nominations of Alexander Hoehn-Saric, of Maryland, Mary T. Boyle, of Maryland, and Richard Trumka, Jr., of Maryland, each to be a Commissioner of the Consumer Product Safety Commission, and Grant T. Harris, of California, to be an Assistant Secretary of Commerce; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine the nominations of Victoria Marie Baecher Wassmer, of the District of Columbia, to be Chief Financial Officer, Mohsin Raza Syed, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary, and Amitabha Bose, of New Jersey, to be Administrator of the Federal Railroad Administration, all of the Department of Transportation, and Meera Joshi, of Pennsylvania, to be Administrator of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, 10 a.m., SR-253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: September 21, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Laura Daniel-Davis, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary,

and M. Camille Calimlim Touton, of Nevada, to be Commissioner of Reclamation, both of the Department of the Interior, and Sara C. Bronin, of Connecticut, to be Chairman of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, 10 a.m., SD-366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: September 22, business meeting to consider S. 2205, to designate the United States courthouse located at 201 South Evans Street in Greenville, North Carolina, as the "Malcolm J. Howard United States Courthouse", S. 2126, to designate the Federal Office Building located at 308 W. 21st Street in Cheyenne, Wyoming, as the "Louisa Swain Federal Office Building", S. 1226, to designate the United States courthouse located at 1501 North 6th Street in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, as the "Sylvia H. Rambo United States Courthouse", S. 233, to designate the Rocksprings Station of the U.S. Border Patrol located on West Main Street in Rocksprings, Texas, as the "Donna M. Doss Border Patrol Station", the nominations of Jeffrey M. Prieto, of California, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, Michael Lee Connor, of Colorado, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Army, Department of Defense, Stephen A. Owens, of Arizona, Jennifer Beth Sass, of Maryland, and Sylvia E. Johnson, of North Carolina, each to be a Member of the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board, and 9 General Services Administration resolutions; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine the circular economy as a concept for creating a more sustainable future, 9:30 a.m., SD-406.

Committee on Finance: September 21, Subcommittee on Social Security, Pensions, and Family Policy, to hold hearings to examine policy options for improving Supplemental Security Income, 2:45 p.m., WEBEX.

September 22, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Christi A. Grimm, of Colorado, to be Inspector General, Department of Health and Human Services, and Neil Harvey MacBride, of Virginia, to be General Counsel for the Department of the Treasury, 10 a.m., SD-215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: September 22, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Thomas R. Nides, of Minnesota, to be Ambassador to the State of Israel, David L. Cohen, of Pennsylvania, to be Ambassador to Canada, Cynthia Ann Telles, of California, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Costa Rica, Sarah Margon, of New York, to be Assistant Secretary for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, and Tom Udall, of New Mexico, to be Ambassador to New Zealand, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Independent State of Samoa, all of the Department of State, 10:15 a.m., SD-G50/VTC.

September 22, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Atul Atmaram Gawande, of Massachusetts, to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, and Claire D. Cronin, of Massachusetts, to be Ambassador to Ireland, Virginia E. Palmer, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Ghana, and Howard A. Van Vranken, of California, to be Ambassador to the Republic

of Botswana, all of the Department of State, 2:30 p.m., VTC.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: September 22, Subcommittee on Employment and Workplace Safety, to hold hearings to examine successful on the job, apprenticeship training programs to help workers and business get ready to work, 10 a.m., SD-430.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: September 21, to hold hearings to examine the landscape 20 years after 9/11, focusing on threats to the homeland, 9:30 a.m., SD-342.

September 22, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Cathy Ann Harris, of Maryland, to be Chairman and a Member, and Tristan Lynn Leavitt, of Idaho, and Raymond A. Limon, of Nevada, both to be a Member, all of the Merit Systems Protection Board, 10:30 a.m., SD-342/VTC.

September 23, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine national cybersecurity strategy, focusing on protection of Federal and critical infrastructure systems, 10:15 a.m., SD-342/VTC.

Committee on Judiciary: September 21, Subcommittee on Competition Policy, Antitrust, and Consumer Rights, to hold hearings to examine big data, focusing on implications for competition and consumers, 2:30 p.m., SD-226.

September 22, Subcommittee on the Constitution, to hold hearings to examine restoring the Voting Rights Act, focusing on combating discriminatory abuses, 10 a.m., SD-226.

September 23, Full Committee, business meeting to consider S. 1787, to amend title 28 of the United States Code to prevent the transfer of actions arising under the antitrust laws in which a State is a complainant, S. 2502, to provide first-time, low-level, nonviolent simple possession offenders an opportunity to expunge that conviction after successful completion of court-imposed probation, and the nominations of Toby J. Heytens, of Virginia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fourth Circuit, Patricia Tolliver Giles, and Michael S. Nachmanoff, both to be a United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Virginia, Sarala Vidya Nagala, and Omar Antonio Williams, both to be a United States District Judge for the District of Connecticut, and Hampton Y. Dellinger, of North Carolina, to be an Assistant Attorney General, Erik L. Barron, to be United States Attorney for the District of Maryland, Nicholas W. Brown, to be United States Attorney for the Western District of Washington, Matthew M. Graves, to be United States Attorney for the District of Columbia, Clifford D. Johnson, to be United States Attorney for the Northern District of Indiana, Zachary A. Myers, of Maryland, to be United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, Rachael S. Rollins, to be United States Attorney for the District of Massachusetts, Trini E. Ross, to be United States Attorney for the Western District of New York, and Vanessa Waldref, to be United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Washington, all of the Department of Justice, 9 a.m., SH-216.

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: September 21, business meeting to consider the nomination

of Dilawar Syed, of California, to be Deputy Administrator of the Small Business Administration, and other pending calendar business, 10 a.m., SR-428A.

September 22, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine a review of the Small Business Innovation Research-Small Business Technology Transfer Program, 2:30 p.m., SR-301.

Select Committee on Intelligence: September 21, to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH-219.

September 22, Full Committee, to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 3 p.m., SH-219.

Special Committee on Aging: September 23, to hold hearings to examine fraud, scams, and COVID-19, focusing on how older Americans have been targeted during the pandemic, 9:30 a.m., SD-562.

House Committees

Committee on Agriculture, September 23, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Voluntary Carbon Markets in Agriculture and Forestry”, 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth and Zoom.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, September 22, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled “Putting Kids First: Addressing COVID-19’s Impacts on Children”, 10:30 a.m., 2123 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Financial Services, September 23, Subcommittee on National Security, International Development and Monetary Policy, hearing entitled “Lending in a Crisis: Reviewing the Federal Reserve’s Emergency Lending Powers during the Pandemic and Examining Proposals to Address Future Economic Crises”, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, September 23, Subcommittee on International Development, International Organizations, and Global Corporate Social Impact, hearing entitled “Shifting the Power: Advancing Locally-led Development and Partner Diversification in U.S. Development Programs”, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn and Webex.

September 23, Subcommittee on Europe, Energy, the Environment, and Cyber; and Subcommittee on the Middle East, North Africa, and Global Counterterrorism, joint hearing entitled “Transatlantic Cooperation on

Countering Global Terrorism and Violent Extremism”, 2 p.m., Webex.

Committee on Homeland Security, September 22, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Worldwide Threats to the Homeland: 20 Years After 9/11”, 9 a.m., Webex.

Committee on the Judiciary, September 23, Subcommittee on Antitrust, Commercial, and Administrative Law, hearing entitled “Reviving Competition, Part 4: 21st Century Antitrust Reforms and the American Worker”, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn and Zoom.

Committee on Oversight and Reform, September 22, Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Crisis, hearing entitled “Recognizing and Building on the Success of Pandemic Relief Programs”, 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn and Zoom.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, September 23, Subcommittee on Environment, hearing entitled “Advancing Earth System Science and Stewardship at NOAA”, 10 a.m., Zoom.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, September 23, Subcommittee on Aviation, hearing entitled “Disruption in the Skies: The Surge in Air Rage and its Effects on Workers, Airlines, and Airports”, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn and Zoom.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, September 22, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Veteran Suicide Prevention: Innovative Research and Expanded Public Health Efforts”, 10 a.m., Zoom.

September 22, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled “Creating a Welcoming VA and Building Equity for Veterans through Legislation”, 2 p.m., Zoom.

Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress, September 23, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Pathways to Success: How Practicing Civility, Collaboration, and Leadership Can Empower Members”, 9 a.m., 2118 Rayburn and Zoom.

Joint Meetings

Joint Economic Committee: September 22, to hold hearings to examine the economic benefits of electrifying America’s homes and buildings, 2:30 p.m., SH-216.

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: September 21, to hold hearings to examine Belarus, focusing on updates on the current situation and U.S. policy responses and options, 2:30 p.m., SD-419.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10:30 a.m., Tuesday, September 21

Senate Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Margaret Irene Strickland, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Mexico, and vote on the motion to invoke cloture thereon at 11:30 a.m. If cloture is invoked on the nomination, Senate will vote on confirmation thereon at 2:30 p.m.

(Senate will recess following the vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Margaret Irene Strickland until 2:15 p.m. for their respective party conferences.)

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

9 a.m., Tuesday, September 21

House Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Begin Consideration of H.R. 4350—National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022 (Subject to a Rule).

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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